1. Domestic and family violence is a serious and complex issue that affects many Queenslanders each year. The human and economic costs are significant.
2. Women and children die as a result of domestic and family violence, work and educational opportunities are affected and people become homeless.
3. In 2009–10, the Queensland Police Service recorded 49,372 domestic and family violence occurrences, an increase of 11.5 per cent on the previous year, and laid 8033 charges for breach of a domestic violence order. The courts received 22,754 applications for domestic violence orders, an increase of eight per cent on the previous year.
4. The Queensland Government is committed to reducing the impact and incidence of domestic and family violence and in 2009 released ‘For our sons and daughters: A Queensland Government strategy to reduce domestic and family violence 2009–2014’and committed to a review of the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 1989.*
5. The aims of the Bill are to:

* increase the safety of people who experience domestic and family violence;
* reduce the exposure of children to domestic violence; and
* make people who commit domestic violence more accountable.

1. It is also intended that the language of the Bill is clear, the legislation is organised in a more straightforward way and that clearer guidance is provided for the court about what should be considered in deciding particular matters.
2. Cabinet approved that the Domestic and Family Violence Protection Bill 2011 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
3. *Attachments*

* [Domestic and Family Violence Protection Bill 2011](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/Explan%20Notes.pdf)