1. On 29 January 2020, the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services declared a public health emergency under section 319 of the *Public Health Act 2005* (PH Act).
2. As a first response, the *Public Health and Other Legislation (Public Health Emergency) Amendment Act 2020* (Public Health Emergency Act) was urgently passed by Parliament on 18 March 2020.
3. As a second response on 22 April 2020, the Queensland Parliament passed the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020* (the COVID-9 Emergency Response Act). The Emergency Response Act included a modification framework which provided for the making of secondary instruments under the following broad global heads of power: reducing physical contact between persons; statutory timeframes; proceedings of courts/tribunals; and authorisation to take actions or do things electronically.
4. Whilst this agile modification framework provides the main vehicle for the Government’s legislative response to the COVID-19 public health emergency (COVID-19 emergency) some necessary legislative amendments are not able be made under the limited global heads of power in the Emergency Response Act or are simply unsuitable to be made by way of a secondary instrument.
5. Amendments to a number of Acts address the following issues in response to the COVID-19 emergency:
   * the safeguarding of assets and revenue streams for state and local governments;
   * providing economic support for Queensland businesses and individuals suffering financial distress caused by the public health emergency;
   * assisting Queensland’s health and disability sector to operate safely and effectively; and
   * assisting Queensland’s adult and youth corrective services and youth detention sector to operate safely and effectively.
6. Cabinet approved the preparation and introduction of the amendments in a suitable legislative vehicle.
7. *Attachments*
   * [Justice and Other Legislation (COVID-19 Emergency Response) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
   * [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
   * [Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/SoC.PDF)