

Executive Summary

The Corrective Services (Parole Board) Amendment Bill 2025 (Bill) was introduced by the Honourable Laura Gerber, Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services (Minister) and was referred to the Governance, Energy and Finance Committee (the committee) by the Legislative Assembly on 3 April 2025.

The Bill aims to empower the Parole Board Queensland (Board) with the authority to review all decisions made by a prescribed board member after a request for immediate suspension from Queensland Corrective Services (QCS), including where a prescribed board member decides not to suspend parole.

The Bill also aims to validate decisions made by the Board as a result of this practice in the past.

Stakeholders and subscribers were invited to make written submissions on the Bill, with the committee receiving 3 submissions. A public briefing was held on 30 April 2025 with representatives of QCS and the Board. This was followed by a public hearing to speak with one submitter.

The key issues raised by stakeholders during the committee's examination of the Bill included:

- the potential for the Bill to work against the aims of parole, including the potential for the suspension of more parole orders
- the retrospective provisions of the Bill and the potential impact on people to claim for wrongful imprisonment.

The committee is satisfied that the Bill gives sufficient regard to the rights and liberties of individuals and the institution of Parliament, and that any limitations of human rights, as set out in the *Human Rights Act 2019*, are reasonable and justifiable. The explanatory notes contain the information required by Part 4 and a sufficient level of background information and commentary to facilitate understanding of the Bill's aims and origins.

The committee made 1 recommendation that the Bill be passed.