

## Executive Summary

The Health Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2025 (the Bill) proposes to amend various acts within the Health legislative portfolio, including the *Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2024* (PBO Act), *Public Health Act 2005* (Public Health Act), *Queensland Mental Health Commission Act 2013* (QHMC Act) and *Radiation Safety Act 1999*.

The objectives of the Bill are to:

- clarify operational requirements relating to the regulation of pharmacy business ownership in Queensland, to ensure the PBO Act operates as intended when the licensing framework under the PBO Act commences;
- support the transition of the state-based Notifiable Dust Lung Disease Register to the National Occupational Respiratory Disease Registry;
- enable equipment and materials to be left at places to collect samples of designated pest, including adult mosquitos, for detecting the presence of Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV);
- clarify that the Minister can appoint an Acting Mental Health Commissioner to the Queensland Mental Health Commission where a Mental Health Commissioner's term has ended; and
- clarify that any person can apply for and hold an approval to dispose of radioactive material.

### **The committee has recommended that the Bill be passed.**

The committee received 5 submissions and determined not to hold a public hearing. Submitters supported the objectives of the Bill and the proposed amendments required to achieve those objectives. The committee received a written briefing from Queensland Health on 4 June 2025, conducted a public briefing with Queensland Health on 12 June 2025, and received a written response from Queensland Health addressing issues raised in written submissions on 18 June 2025.

Key themes considered by the committee included:

- proposed amendments to the definitions of 'material interest', 'core pharmacy services' and 'compound' in the PBO Act required to achieve the policy intent of the PBO Act before it fully commences later this year;
- how removal of timeframes for requesting further information or documents, and requesting inspections of premises, under the PBO Act may impact timeframes for the Pharmacy Business Ownership Council's (Council) consideration of applications;
- proposed amendments to the Public Health Act necessary to ensure Queensland authorities can continued to effectively respond to the risk posed by JEV;

- proposed amendments to the Public Health Act to transition Queensland to the National Occupational Disease Registry to ensure reduced administration burden on practitioners and government agencies while still ensuring the risk posed by occupational respiratory diseases is appropriately monitored and managed.

The committee concluded that the Bill complies with the *Legislative Standards Act 1992* and the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

The committee made 1 recommendation, found on page vii: that the Bill be passed.