

Executive Summary

On 20 February 2025, the Hon Laura Gerber MP, Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services, introduced the Youth Justice (Monitoring Devices) Amendment Bill 2025 (Bill) into the Queensland Parliament. The Bill was referred to the Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee (the committee) for consideration and declared urgent.¹

The primary objective of the Bill is to extend for 12 months the expiry of section 52AA of the *Youth Justice Act 1992* (YJ Act). Section 52AA of the YJ Act allows a court, in certain circumstances, to impose the use of an electronic monitoring device (EMD) as a condition of bail for a child.

Extending the electronic monitoring trial period by one year will allow for a comprehensive review to be completed to inform government decisions about electronic monitoring for child offenders.²

Stakeholders were invited to make written submissions on the Bill and the committee received and accepted 14 submissions, which were published on the committee's webpage.

The committee received a written briefing on 25 February 2025 and an oral briefing on 17 March 2025 from the Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support.

The committee also heard from stakeholders at a public hearing in Brisbane on 17 March 2025.

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

- evidence supporting further extension of the trial period
- research methodologies
- data collection and connected purposes
- the effectiveness of EMDs in responding to youth crime
- alternatives to EMDs
- use of public resources
- trial extension without implementation of additional supports.

The committee is satisfied that the Bill gives sufficient regard to the rights and liberties of individuals and the institution of Parliament as required by the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

Further, the committee is satisfied that the Bill is compatible with human rights as defined in the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

The committee made one recommendation, found at page vi of this report, that the Bill be passed.

¹ Queensland Parliament, Record of Proceedings, 20 February 2025, p 216.

² Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support (Department), written briefing, 25 February 2025, p 1.