

## Executive Summary

The aim of the Coroners (Mining and Resources Coroner) Amendment Bill 2025 (the Bill) is to ‘provide more timely answers and certainty to families that mining related deaths will be investigated and an inquiry conducted to determine the cause of the death’, and to prevent similar deaths from happening in the future and keep mining companies accountable.

The Bill would amend the *Coroners Act 2003* to:

- establish a dedicated position of Mining and Resources Coroner (MRC)
- provide that the MRC must undertake mandatory coronial investigations and inquests into all accidental mining-related deaths, including deaths occurring on mines, coal mines, and quarries, as well as certain sites where petroleum and gas works are carried out.

The committee received 5 written submissions and held a public briefing with the Department of Justice and independent regulator Resources Safety and Health Queensland. The committee also held a public hearing with selected stakeholders.

Stakeholders raised concerns in relation to the reforms proposed within the Bill. Some stakeholders suggested that deaths occurring from suicide, from mine dust lung disease, and deaths occurring during travel to work sites should be included as mining related reportable deaths subject to mandatory inquests by the MRC.

The committee made 2 recommendations, found at page vi of this report.

### Legislative compliance

The committee’s task was to consider the policy to be achieved by the legislation and the application of fundamental legislative principles – that is, to consider whether the Bill has sufficient regard to the rights and liberties of individuals, and to the institution of Parliament. The committee also examined the Bill for compatibility with human rights in accordance with the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

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