

## Executive summary

### **About the Bill**

The Queensland Academy of Sport Bill 2025 (Bill) is to establish the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS) as a statutory body, commencing 1 July 2025, to:

- assist emerging and elite Queensland athletes to achieve success at the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games
- identify, and foster the development of, Queenslanders who demonstrate the talent to develop into future elite athletes
- collaborate with institutes of sport, and national and Queensland sporting organisations, to maximise the success of Australian athletes at the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games.

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

There was broad support for the Bill from stakeholders who submitted to the inquiry. Stakeholders referred to the need for the QAS to have greater flexibility to operate as a high performance sport agency preparing Queensland's emerging and elite athletes for success. Most submitters strongly supported the change to a statutory body.

The committee and stakeholders highlighted the significance of the proposed Board composition for the strategic direction of the QAS. The committee has unanimously recommended an amendment to the Bill to better align the composition of the Board with the purpose and functions of the QAS. The committee considers it is crucial that Board members collectively have qualifications, skills or competencies in both Olympic and Paralympic sport.

Matters related to the proposed functions of the QAS, specifically collaboration and partnerships with other sporting organisations, development pathways for athletes with disability, inclusivity of facilities, employment and sports practices, and the development of participants living in regional areas, were key issues raised by stakeholders. The proposed function of the QAS Board to ensure the QAS creates child safe environments was also examined. The committee considers the Bill provides a framework for the QAS Board to ensure that it is well informed on these important issues and other aspects of the QAS' functions, through the establishment of committees.

Proposed staffing arrangements and terms of appointment of the CEO and QAS staff were also considered by the committee.

### **Legislative compliance**

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