

Executive summary

About the Bill

The Revenue Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 (the Bill) implements revenue related commitments made by the government during the 2024 state election campaign.

The Bill amends the *Duties Act 2001* (Duties Act) to:

- for dutiable transactions that involve first home owners purchasing a new home or vacant land on which to build a home, provide full duty relief in respect of the first home owners' interests and to the extent they will use the new home as their home
- enable recipients of the transfer duty home concessions to rent part of their property during the one year occupation period and retain the full benefit of this relief.

The Bill also amends the *Payroll Tax Act 1971* (Payroll Tax Act) to introduce an exemption to provide that wages liable to payroll tax and the mental health levy do not include wages paid or payable by medical practices to general practitioners.

The committee has recommended that the Bill be passed

All inquiry participants supported the amendments proposed by the Bill.

Regarding the amendments to the Duties Act, stakeholders supported the measures which they considered would improve home ownership levels in Queensland and improve affordability for first home buyers. All stakeholders acknowledged the complex challenges facing the housing sector in Queensland particularly around housing supply and contended that a multifaceted and sustained approach would be needed to address supply challenges. That said, the measures proposed in the Bill were considered to be a sensible and welcome step forward.

Stakeholders representing General Practitioners (GPs) and the medical sector in Queensland strongly supported the proposed amendments to the Payroll Tax Act, submitting that they would ensure essential GP care remains affordable for Queenslanders, practices remain financially viable, and pressure is reduced on public hospitals and ambulance services.

Inquiry stakeholders advocated for the payroll tax exemption to also apply to non-GP specialists.

They also called for clear and updated information for the sector as to the potential impact of this legislation on retrospective amnesty arrangements, particularly clarification on whether administrative data disclosure requirements required by the Queensland Revenue Office would still be required should this Bill pass. The committee is of the view that there is a strong argument for the government to consider these suggestions and has made recommendations to this effect.

Legislative compliance

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