1. In August 2009, the Government released the *Integrity and Accountability in Queensland* discussion paper to promote public discussion on improving Queensland’s integrity and accountability framework. The consultation on the paper highlighted the importance of the Legislative Assembly possessing and maintaining a high standard of scrutiny over the legislative process.
2. In response to this feedback, the bipartisan Committee System Review Committee (the Committee) was established to conduct an inquiry and report on how parliamentary oversight of legislation could be enhanced and how the existing parliamentary committee system could be strengthened to enhance accountability.
3. The Committee considered the role of Australian and international parliamentary committees in examining legislative proposals, particularly in jurisdictions with unicameral parliaments; timely and cost-effective ways in which the Queensland parliamentary committees could more effectively evaluate legislative proposals; and the effectiveness of the operation of the Parliamentary Committee structure following the restructure of the committee system.
4. In December 2010, the Committee tabled its report on the inquiry titled *Review of the Queensland Parliamentary Committee System* (the Report). The Report recommended significant reforms to the parliamentary committee system in favour of portfolio-based committees. The Report also made recommendations on the committees responsible for the operations of the Parliament, in particular, the creation of a Committee of the Legislative Assembly.
5. The Government responded to the Report in March 2011. In its response, the Government supported the majority of the recommendations made by the Committee. The Parliament of Queensland (Reform and Modernisation) Amendment Bill 2011 gives legislative effect to certain aspects of the Government’s response to that report.
6. Cabinet approved that the Parliament of Queensland (Reform and Modernisation) Amendment Bill 2011 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
7. *Attachments*
* [Parliament of Queensland (Reform and Modernisation) Amendment Bill 2011](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)