1. The current *Hospitals Foundations Act 1982* provides for the establishment and regulation of hospital foundations (foundations). Foundations help their associated Hospital and Health Service and support the Queensland public health system generally by raising funds to improve facilities, supporting educational and training opportunities for staff, funding research, and supporting and promoting the health and wellbeing of communities.
2. The Hospital Foundations Bill 2017 (the Bill) repeals and replaces the *Hospitals Foundations Act 1982* with legislation that meets contemporary drafting standards and reflects foundations’ current operational practices.
3. The Bill seeks to achieve benefits for foundations’ associated Hospital and Health Services, and the public health system generally in Queensland by providing a legislative framework for the establishment, governance and administration of foundations.
4. The Bill includes enhanced powers for the Minister where concerns arise about a foundation’s financial viability or governance.
5. A change to the Australia and New Zealand Food Standards Code to permit low tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) seeds to be sold as food in Australia comes into effect on 12 November 2017. The Bill amends part 5B of the *Drugs Misuse Act 1986* to enable Queensland industrial cannabis growers to produce low THC hemp seed for food, which is currently not permitted.
6. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Hospital Foundations Bill 2017 into the Legislative Assembly.
7. *Attachments*
* [Hospital Foundations Bill 2017](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes to the Hospital Foundations Bill 2017](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)