1. Each of the seven Queensland public universities are established as statutory bodies under their own Act (the university Acts). The university Acts provide for matters including the size, composition and functions of the governing body, the powers of delegation, and the power to make university statues about certain matters.
2. Since 2012, all Australian universities have been regulated by the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency, a Commonwealth agency established under the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011*.
3. The Department of Education and Training reviewed the university Acts, in consultation with universities and other key stakeholders, to identify ways to reduce regulatory burden on universities and modernise the legislative framework.
4. The University Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 implements reforms resulting from the review by:
	* removing the capacity for universities to develop statutes;
	* requiring universities to have a policy for the election of staff and student representatives to the university governing body;
	* removing monetary limitations on the delegation of powers and functions of university governing bodies;
	* allowing the sub-delegation of powers delegated to the vice-chancellor;
	* modernising the provisions in the university Acts that ensure the integrity of the membership of the governing body; and
	* making technical amendments to the legislation for some universities.
5. The Bill also amends the governance arrangements for James Cook University (JCU) to allow the JCU Council to pass a resolution about its size and composition. The Bill sets the minimum requirements and parameters for the governance structure and ensures appropriate staff and student representation on the Council is maintained.
6. Cabinet approved that the University Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
7. *Attachments*
* [University Legislation Amendment Bill 2017](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)