1. The government has committed to improving the regulatory environment for craft brewers and artisan distillers to support industry development and cut red tape.
2. Before COVID-19, the artisan liquor industry in Queensland was a growth sector. The pandemic has highlighted the need for reforms to support craft brewers and artisan distillers throughout the state.
3. A single licence category for craft brewers and artisan distillers has been developed to strengthen the artisan liquor sector while continuing to ensure licensees are subject to harm-minimisation obligations under the *Liquor Act 1992.*
4. The Liquor (Artisan Liquor) Amendment Bill 2020 (the Bill) introduces a new type of ‘commercial other’ licence known as the artisan producer licence. The authorisations under the artisan producer licence will support the optimum development of the Queensland craft brewing and artisan distilling industries. This assists the sector to recover from the impacts of COVID-19.
5. Maximum production volume limits and a requirement for the business to be independently owned will ensure the concessions under the artisan producer licence benefit Queensland businesses which produce genuine artisan products.
6. The Bill also makes amendments to the existing producer/wholesaler licence to provide market access opportunities to craft brewers and artisan distillers who continue to operate under that licence type.
7. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Liquor (Artisan Liquor) Amendment Bill 2020 into the Legislative Assembly.
8. *Attachments*
* [Liquor (Artisan Liquor) Amendment Bill 2020](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
* [Statement of Compatibility with the *Human Rights Act 2019*](Attachments/SoC.PDF)