1. In July 2008, a review of the civil and criminal justice system in Queensland was launched by the Queensland Government. Former Senior Judge Administrator, the Honourable Martin Moynihan AO QC, was appointed to conduct the review and report on the working of Queensland courts in the civil and criminal jurisdictions with a view to making more effective use of public resources.
2. The report on the review (entitled *Review of the civil and criminal justice system in Queensland*) and Queensland Government Response were publicly released on 21 July 2009. Consistent with the staged, incremental and prioritised approach to implementation recommended in the report, the Queensland Government Response indicates that legislative reforms will be introduced initially in response to the Report in two stages.
3. The object of the Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction Reform and Modernisation Amendment Bill 2009 (the Bill) is to implement the first stage of the reforms, including amendments to:
* expand the summary jurisdiction of the Magistrates Courts for indictable offences;
* increase the criminal jurisdiction of the District Court from offences with a maximum penalty of 14 years and less to a maximum of 20 years and less;
* improve disclosure in criminal cases; and
* increase the monetary limits for the civil jurisdiction of the District Court and Magistrates Courts.
1. Cabinet approved the tabling of the Consultation Draft Bill in the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
* [Consultation Draft - Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction Reform and Modernisation Amendment Bill 2009](Attachments/Consultation%20draft%20bill.pdf)
* [Consultation Draft - Explanatory Notes.](Attachments/Draft%20Explanatory%20Notes%20final.docx)