1. The primary purpose of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Holding Bill 2012 (the Bill) is to address issues arising from the implementation and operation of the *Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders (Land Holding) Act 1985* (the Land Holding Act).
2. The Land Holding Act allowed residents of Indigenous Deeds of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) and reserve land to apply for perpetual leases for residential purposes and special leases for commercial purposes.
3. Under the Land Holding Act 214 perpetual leases and 9 special leases from 697 known applications have been granted.
4. To resolve the outstanding leases issued under the Land Holding Act, the Bill repeals the Land Holding Act and introduces a new Act, the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Holding Act 2012*, to provide the required processes and tools to resolve the issues associated with the granted leases and the outstanding lease entitlements.
5. The Bill also seeks to:
* resolve issues under the *Land Act 1994* regarding agreements under the State Rural Leasehold Land Strategy that allow Indigenous people to access and use state rural leasehold land for traditional purposes where native title exists;
* address barriers to development in Indigenous communities by inserting in the *Land Act 1994* a power for the trustee to subdivide DOGIT; and
* amend the Aboriginal *Land Act 1991* and the *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991* to provide local government continued statutory access to those improvements from which they provide municipal services once the land is transferred, and, to better define the area that can continued to be used by the state and the Commonwealth once the land is transferred.
1. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Holding Bill 2012 into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
* [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Holding Bill 2012](Attachments/Attachment%201%20Bill%202012.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/Attachment%202%20ExNotes.PDF)