1. The laws, practices and procedures of the Legislative Assembly assume that the business of the Assembly will be conducted by members being physically present during sittings.
2. Amendments to these provisions are necessary to enable the Assembly to meet by electronic means during the current COVID-19 public health emergency.
3. The Bill makes legislative amendments to allow the Queensland Legislative Assembly to sit, meet and make decisions by electronic means during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
4. The *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* is amended to:
* set out that the Legislative Assembly may sit and transact business via electronic means during the COVID-19 public health emergency;
* allow members to attend, form a quorum and vote via electronic means or through the use of a proxy at a sitting held during the COVID-19 public health emergency;
* give the Assembly authority to make Standing rules and orders to further set out in detail how it will meet and conduct business via electronic means during the COVID-19 public health emergency; and
* insert definitions for ‘present’ and ‘voting’ that clarify that members may take part in meetings of the statutory committees of the Assembly either in person, or by telephone, video or other electronic means.
1. Cabinet approved the introduction of amendments to the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
* [COVID-19 Emergency Response Bill 2020](Attachments/Bill.PDF) (refer Part 10, Division 2 for the amendments to the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
* [Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/SoC.PDF)