1. Trading hours of shops in Queensland are regulated by the *Trading (Allowable Hours) Act 1990* (the Act) and, in limited circumstances, by orders of the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC). Key functions of the Act include prescribing categories of shops which are exempt from trading hours restrictions, setting permitted trading hours of non-exempt shops, and empowering the QIRC to make certain orders about trading hours.
2. The Trading (Allowable Hours) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 (the Bill) amends the Act to implement recommendations of the Queensland Parliamentary Education, Employment and Training Committee (the Committee) following its recent inquiry into the Act.
3. The Committee considered that the Act is operating well to regulate trading hours arrangements and did not recommend any major changes to the existing regulatory framework. However, the Committee identified opportunities to further reduce complexity and red tape for retail industry stakeholders by streamlining and clarifying existing trading hours arrangements.
4. The Bill implements the Committee’s recommendations by amending the Act to:
* extend two existing five-year moratoriums in the Act for an additional 12 months
* clarify that the powers of the QIRC to make orders is limited to determining the category that should apply to a particular locality, or part of a locality, and the definitions and boundaries of these localities
* provide clear guidance for stakeholders about the factors relevant for the QIRC declaring special events
* streamline and simplify the categories for core trading hours for non-exempt shops; and
* ensure continued protections for employees to choose to work, or not to work, extended hours due to orders or declarations made by the QIRC, and ensure these protections apply irrespective of an employee’s industrial instrument.
1. In addition, the Bill amends the *Education (Queensland College of Teachers) Act 2005* and the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* to make permanent particular measures put temporarily in place during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The amendments modernise the operations of the Queensland College of Teachers and Parents and Citizens Associations by allowing them to take advantage of available communication technology for particular meetings required under the legislation.
2. Cabinet approved introduction of the Trading (Allowable Hours) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 into the Legislative Assembly.
3. *Attachments:*
* [Trading (Allowable Hours) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2022/May/TradingOLAB/Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2022/May/TradingOLAB/Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)
* [Statement of Compatibility with Human Rights](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2022/May/TradingOLAB/Attachments/SoC.PDF)