

# **Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015**

## **Explanatory Notes for amendments to be moved during consideration in detail by the Honourable Curtis Pitt MP Treasurer, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.**

### **Short title**

The short title of the Bill is the Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015.

### **Policy objectives and the reasons for them**

The amendments to be moved during consideration in detail give effect to the Government's commitment that the changes to the dates of the Labour Day and Queen's Birthday public holidays contained in the Holidays and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 (the Bill) will occur from 2016.

### **Achievement of policy objectives**

Currently the Bill provides that the changes to the *Holidays Act 1983* relating to the dates of observance for Labour Day and the Birthday of the Sovereign (Queen's Birthday) public holidays and consequential amendments to the *Industrial Relations Act 1999* are to commence on 6 October 2015, being the day after the Labour Day public holiday in 2015.

As it has not been possible to place the Bill before Parliament for debate prior to 6 October 2015, it is appropriate that an amendment to the Bill be made to reflect that the changes to those aforementioned public holidays (i.e. parts 3 and 4 of the Bill) will take effect from the date of assent of the Bill. In accordance with section 15A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* an Act commences on the date of assent except so far as the Act otherwise expressly provides. All parts of the Bill, other than parts 3 and 4, will commence on a date to be proclaimed.

### **Alternative ways of achieving policy objectives**

The policy objectives can only be achieved by legislative amendment.

## **Estimated cost for government implementation**

There are no funding implications for government as a consequence of the amendment.

## **Consistency with fundamental legislative principles**

The amendment to be moved during consideration in detail is consistent with fundamental legislative principles.

## **Consultation**

The Government's intentions in relation to changing public holiday arrangements were publicly announced in its pre-election commitment 'Honouring the real Labour Day'. Furthermore, the decision for the changes to commence in 2016 was announced by the Treasurer on 17 March 2015 and widely reported in the State's media.

## **Consistency with legislation of other jurisdictions**

The amendment is specific to Queensland and is not inconsistent with legislation in the Commonwealth or other State jurisdictions.

## **Notes on provisions**

*Amendment 1*, amends Clause 2 of the Bill to omit the current provisions and inserts a new provision prescribing that all provisions of the Act other than parts 3 and 4 (which deal with changes to public holidays) will commence on a date to be fixed by proclamation.

In accordance with section 15A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*, parts 3 and 4 will commence on the date of assent of the Act.