

# Referendum for an Upper House Bill 2011

## Explanatory Notes

### Objectives of the Legislation

The objective of the Bill is to put the *People's House Bill 2011* to a referendum at the next council elections in Queensland, to be held on March 31, 2011.

### Reasons for the Bill

In 1917, a referendum held to abolish the Legislative Council was overwhelmingly rejected by the majority of Queenslanders. Despite this, the Legislative Council was abolished in 1922 and in 1934 further changes were made in the *Constitution Act Amendment Act 1934* to doubly entrench the requirement for a referendum prior to any re-establishment of an upper house.

This Bill provides a mechanism for Queenslanders to vote at a referendum to restore the upper house to be known as the People's House.