

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

REPORT No. 35

on the

CRIMINAL CODE (WAGE THEFT) AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2020

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION

On 15 July 2020, the Criminal Code (Wage Theft) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2020 (the Bill) was introduced into Parliament.

The Bill was referred to the Education, Employment and Small Business Committee (the Committee), with a report back of 28 August 2020.

On 28 August 2020, the Committee tabled its report (No. 35) in relation to the Bill.

The Queensland Government response to the recommendations made by the Committee is provided below.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends the Bill be passed.

Government response

The Government thanks the Committee for its consideration of the Bill and notes the Committee's recommendation that the Bill be passed.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends the conciliation process for fair work claims commenced under the Industrial Magistrates Court, be mandatory, with employers and employees required to make 'reasonable attempts' at reaching agreement.

Government response

The Government supports further consideration of this proposed amendment following review, and consultation with stakeholders, on the non-mandatory conciliation process.