

Impact Analysis Statement

Summary IAS

Details

Lead department	Department of Justice
Name of the proposal	Penalties and Sentences (Sexual Offences) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025
Submission type	Summary Impact Analysis Statement
Title of related legislative or regulatory instrument	Penalties and Sentences (Sexual Offences) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025
Date of issue	May 2025

For proposals noted in table below

Proposal type	Details
Minor and machinery in nature	<p>The Bill amends the <i>Crimes at Sea Act 2001</i> to realign relevant provisions of the Act with provisions in the Commonwealth <i>Crimes at Sea Act 2000</i>. The amendments are machinery in nature, consequential to changes made to Commonwealth legislation, and do not result in a substantive change to regulatory policy or new impacts on business, government, or the community.</p> <p>The Bill also amends the <i>Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000</i> to maintain the status quo for suspension notice powers, update terminology to enhance clarity, and correct cross-references. The amendments are machinery in nature and do not result in a substantive change to regulatory policy or new impacts on business, government, or the community.</p>
Regulatory proposals where no RIA is required	<p>The Bill amends the <i>Penalties and Sentences Act 1992</i> to implement four recommendations from the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council report entitled <i>Sentencing of Sexual Assault and Rape: The Ripple Effect</i> by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> expanding the purposes of sentencing to include harm to a victim; introducing a new statutory aggravating factor for sentencing offenders convicted of sexual assault or rape against a child aged 16 or 17; restricting the court's use of certain types of character evidence as a mitigating factor in sentencing a person convicted of a sexual offence, and providing the court discretion to not treat certain types of character evidence as a mitigating factor in sentencing a person convicted of a sexual offence; and clarifying that no inference may be made by the sentencing court about harm to a victim from the fact that a victim impact statement or other details of harm was not given in the sentencing proceeding. <p>The Bill also amends the Criminal Code to introduce a new offence for false representations in relation to Queensland government agencies.</p> <p>The amendments to the <i>Penalties and Sentences Act 1992</i> and the Criminal Code relate to general criminal laws and the administration of the courts. No regulatory impact analysis is required under the <i>Queensland Government Better Regulation Policy</i>.</p>



Impact assessment

All proposals

	First full year	First 10 years
Direct costs – Compliance costs	Nil	Nil
Direct costs – Government costs	Nil	Nil

Signed

Sarah Cruickshank
Director-General
Department of Justice and Attorney-General

Date: 18 May 2025

Deb Frecklington MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and
Minister for Integrity

Date: 18 May 2025