

**POLICE SERVICE ADMINISTRATION  
(ALCOHOL AND DRUG TESTING)  
AMENDMENT BILL 2003**

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**

**FOR**

**AMENDMENTS TO BE MOVED IN COMMITTEE BY  
THE HONOURABLE TONY MCGRADY MP, MINISTER  
FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND  
MINISTER ASSISTING THE PREMIER ON THE  
CARPENTARIA MINERALS PROVINCE**

**Title of the Bill**

*Police Service Administration (Alcohol and Drug Testing) Amendment  
Bill 2003*

**Objectives of the Amendments**

The objectives of the amendments are to –

- (a) provide an exemption to covert police officers from the operation of the legislation where their duties require them to consume alcohol during an operation; and
- (b) to allow for drug testing of successful applicants for recruit positions within the Queensland Police Service prior to the commencement of their training.

**Achievement of the Objectives**

The objectives will be achieved through an amendment to the Bill.

### **Alternative Ways of Achieving Policy Objectives**

There are no alternative ways to achieve the policy objectives.

### **Estimated Cost for Government Implementation**

There will be cost associated with the drug testing of successful applicants to become police recruits estimated at approximately \$30,000 per year.

### **Consistency with Fundamental Legislative Principles**

The amendments do not breach fundamental legislative principles.

### **Consultation**

The Queensland Police Union of Employees were consulted with respect to the amendments.

## **NOTES ON PROVISIONS**

Clause 5 is amended in section 5A.7 so that the alcohol limit set for police officers does not apply to covert police officers and police officers conducting surveillance in certain circumstances where an exemption has been given to these officers under the amended section 5A.9(4).

Clause 5 is amended in section 5A.9 to allow the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner to exempt, in writing, a member or class of members from the application of random breath testing, e.g., covert police officers and officers conducting surveillance on criminals in hotels.

Clause 5 is amended in section 5A.13 to allow for drug testing of successful applicants for positions as a police recruit prior to those persons commencing training as a police recruit.