



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO.5 – JUSTICE AND COMMUNITIES

## MEDIA RELEASE

### INQUIRY INTO JURY AMENDMENT BILL 2023

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

11 March 2024

The Upper House committee tasked with examining the Jury Amendment Bill 2023 has tabled its report today.

The bill proposes a number of changes to the *Jury Act 1977*, including reducing the minimum jury deliberation time before a majority verdict can be delivered from eight to four hours.

Committee Chair, the Hon Robert Borsak MLC, said: "This inquiry has provided a valuable opportunity to reflect on the important role juries play in the criminal trial process and the significant service jurors undertake to uphold the administration of justice."

"The committee has considered the bill in full and heard evidence from diverse stakeholders with a range of expertise. The committee's report highlights various issues that can be further considered by the House," the Chair continued.

The Chair concluded: "The committee recommends that the Legislative Council proceed to debate the bill, addressing the concerns of stakeholders as represented in the report".

The committee's report and other inquiry documents can be found on the [inquiry webpage](#).

-ENDS-

*For further information please contact Committee Chair, Hon Robert Borsak MLC, on 9230 2573*