In another step to further increase the scrutiny of Government, Explanatory Statements for new legislation will now be available to the public for the first time, Leader of Government Business Paul Henderson said today.

“From now on, a Bill that is introduced into the Parliament will be accompanied by an Explanatory Statement which provides brief explanations about sections of the Bill to help understand the legislation,” Mr Henderson said.

“These materials, which will be available to the public through the Parliamentary Hansard, can be used as an aide to understanding the purpose of the Bill.

“This type of material has previously has been available for Ministers but was not made public.

“I am pleased the CLP Opposition has praised this latest move. One wonders why they did not take this step during their 27 years in office.

“We are a Government for all Territorians and in the past three and half years we have taken a number of steps to increase the scrutiny of Government and make Government more accountable to Territorians.

“These measures include the introduction of Freedom of Information laws, an Estimates Committee to review the Budget, Question Time being opened up to television cameras and Community Cabinets.”

Contact: Rebecca Cass 0401 110 389