



Building newsflash

Draft Disability (Access to Premises—Buildings) Standards

Purpose

To advise stakeholders that the abovementioned draft Premises Standards have been tabled in the Commonwealth House of Representatives and comment can be made directly to the House of Representatives Committee.

Background

The draft Premises Standards have recently been tabled in the House of Representatives by the Commonwealth Attorney-General. As a result, the draft Premises Standards were to be referred to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

It is considered that the technical requirements of the Building Code of Australia (BCA) relating to access for people with disabilities may not satisfy the requirements of the Commonwealth's *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA). These differences can give rise to potential inconsistencies and uncertainty and the Premises Standards are intended to provide technical solutions that will satisfy the DDA.

Once the draft Premises Standards are finalised, the BCA will be amended to align the technical details of each document. When achieved, compliance with the access provisions of the BCA will facilitate compliance with both the Premises Standards and the DDA.

The draft Premises Standards can be accessed online at www.aq.gov.au/premisesstandards

The House of Representatives committee is inviting submissions on the draft Premises Standards, closing on **Friday 13 February 2009**. Submissions should be made directly to the House of Representatives committee at www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/laca/disabilitystandards/index.htm

The link also has advice on preparing a submission.

Contact officer

Building Codes Queensland

tel +61 7 3239 6369

buildingcodes@dip.qld.gov.au

DISCLAIMER: The information contained in this Newsflash is provided by the State of Queensland in good faith. The material is general in nature and before relying on the material in any important matter, users should carefully evaluate its accuracy, currency, completeness and relevance for their purpose. It is not intended as a substitute for consulting the relevant legislation or for obtaining appropriate professional advice relevant to your particular circumstances. The State of Queensland cannot accept responsibility or liability for any loss, damage, cost or expense you might incur as a result of the use of or reliance on information contained in this Newsflash. It is not intended to be, and should not be relied upon as the ultimate and/or complete source of information.