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Submission No

429

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BY: LACA

Hon. Mark Dreyfus QC MP
Committee Secretary

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
House of Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House Canberra 2600
Sent by Email: laca.reps@aph.gov.au

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11th March 2009

Dear Mr Dreyfus

Re: Supplementary submission to the Inquiry into the Draft Disability Standards for Access to Premises.

Further to my submission dated 2nd March 2009 I would like to add the following issue/s:

1. The reduction to the continuous accessible path of travel (CAPT) from 1200mm to 1000mm minimum
 - ✦ This is a loss of circulation space that will impact negatively upon people's ease of mobility and movement within the built environment and should be reconsidered
 - ✦ However the inclusion of the CAPT requirements (in corridors) without chamfered corners being 1500mm is useful
2. Passing spaces for 2 people using wheelchairs shall be a minimum width of 1800mm for a minimum length of 2000mm at no more than 20m intervals
 - ✦ This could result in some buildings with corridors up to 19M without an opportunity for 2 people using mobility devices to pass. Having worked in buildings without passing space I know this lack of circulation space results in people having to jump into doorways, users of wheelchairs having to wait at one end of a corridor until the other user has travelled through, and damage to walls, furniture and doors.
3. Lifts in new buildings with more than one level should be considered a mandatory requirement
 - ✦ Any new building (with more than one level) constructed after this Disability Standard is passed should have a requirement for a lift, because without access to an upper floor, the impact on people with disabilities (who can not meet a requirements to use steps or stairways) will likely result in lost opportunities to:

- employment goods
- services and facilities; and
- any activity carried out on an upper floor

Thank you for the opportunity to make a supplementary submission to this Inquiry.

Yours sincerely

Jill Fowler
Director

&

Trevor Harrison
Director

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