



Submission No. 88

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BY: LACA

Mr Mark Dreyfus QC MP
C/- Committee Secretary
House of Representatives Standing Committee on
Legal and Constitutional Affairs
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

→ Secretariat

Dear Mr Dreyfus

Thank you for your letter of 19 January 2009 inviting a submission from the Northern Territory Government in relation to the inquiry into the draft Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards.

The Standards will provide an enhanced level of certainty in the area of disabled access to buildings and an alignment between the Building Code of Australia and the objectives of the *Disability Discrimination Act* (Cth).

The exemptions for buildings or parts of buildings that are not required to be accessible under the Standards and the inclusion of an 'unjustifiable hardship' exemption will provide for flexibility in the application of the Standards.

Disabled users of buildings will derive a significant benefit from the increased access and amenities and the Northern Territory Government supports the Standards.

Yours sincerely

PAUL HENDERSON
12/3/09