

The Research Director  
Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000

21 June 2013

### **Queensland Building Services Authority Amendment Bill 2013**

Dear Research Director

I am writing to you regarding the Queensland Building Services Authority Amendment Bill 2013.

The Australian Institute of Building (AIB) welcomes the reforms to the Queensland Building Services Authority announced earlier this month. However, AIB is disappointed with some aspects, and in particular the lack of proposals for compulsory CPD and AIB membership being a means to obtain an open building licence were notable omissions.

The plan to implement a system of continuing professional development (CPD) is a very positive development for the building industry in Queensland, but it is unfortunate that it will not be compulsory. If the CPD system is not compulsory then it will 'lack teeth' and will largely be ignored.

Further, given the high educational and experience benchmarks for corporate membership of the Australian Institute of Building, this should be one pathway to obtaining an open building licence in Queensland. We were also disappointed that this was not amongst the proposals.

Retaining the 'one-stop shop' model with appropriate corporate governance structures is what we requested in our submission, so we support that proposal.

AIB welcomes the review the current licensing system to ensure it is meeting its stated objectives, including clarification of what constitutes unlicensed building work.

AIB also praises the proposals to: develop and implement a framework for undertaking routine checks for compliance with building standards and codes; consider the development and implementation of a rapid domestic adjudication model to fast track domestic building disputes with mandated response timelines; and develop an improved suite of domestic building contracts.

Whilst initially disappointed that the profession was not represented on the Review Panel, AIB looks forward to being involved in the development of the

recommendations made and the further work to done, as the 'devil is often in the detail'.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Whittaker', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr Robert Whittaker FAIB

AIB National President