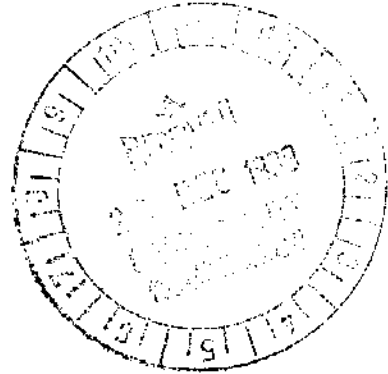


Ref:PCAA

December 22nd, 1999

VIA email

The Manager
Productivity Commission
Architects Inquiry
LB2 Collins Street East
MELBOURNE VIC 8003



Dear Sir/Madam,

Inquiry - Architects Acts

The Architects Board of Western Australia wishes to endorse the submission made to the Commission by the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACA). We have read carefully the content of the AACA submission and agree with the general position represented with the only area of difference being the preferred legislative model.

This Board would prefer a system of uniform legislation across Australia administered in each state or territory by a local board. We believe all the issues presented in the AACA submission could be addressed under such a model however it would allow for more flexibility to deal with local state by state issues than the proposed centralist model of the AACA.

For instance it would still be possible to include in the respective state Acts provisions that allow for Architects registered in one state to practice in others thus avoiding the perceived duplication under the current system and allowing for an 'Architects registered in Australia' perception for international clients.

The reasoning behind our stance for individual state control is one of practicality in dealing with state by state issues, including disciplinary cases, and our experience with the burgeoning costs that have resulted from the centralisation of control within the RAIA to Canberra. The RAIA operated much more effectively in WA when the local chapter controlled the day to day running and finances of the Chapter.

If this were not possible then this Board would concede that a single national architects act with one Board (AACA) and one registration scheme would be preferable to de-regulation. We reiterate that the RAIA is not the appropriate body to administer the architect's acts in Australia.

Should you have any queries on our submission please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on 0418 950 862.

Yours faithfully,

Brian Wright
Chairman