

December 20, 1999

Productivity Commission
Architects' Inquiry
LB 2, Collins Street East
Melbourne VICTORIA 8003

To whom it may concern

I, Gregory Cowan, am a registered architect, and a professional educator of future architects, and I strongly support the view that the registration of architects should be retained.

The legislation governing the registration of architects is clearly of benefit to communities in Australia because it ensures that those persons registered as architects are qualified by education, training and experience and have the necessary competencies and resources to perform the role of an architect in the community. Furthermore, the registration of architects promotes quality of service to the community beyond monetary cost alone, encouraging innovation in, and due consideration for, ethical, ecological, environmental and aesthetic values of designed places.

The registration process allows the community the facility to respond to a registering body on the quality and value of the service of an architect. Without this protection, I suggest that the community would have difficulty in establishing the qualifications and ability of those calling themselves architects in today's complex marketplace of designers of environments.

Yours sincerely

(signature)

Gregory Cowan architect RAlA, lecturer in architecture, Curtin University of Technology