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WA

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Productivity Commission  
Architects Inquiry  
LB2 Collins Street East  
Melbourne VICTORIA 8003

**RE: REVIEW OF THE ARCHITECT'S ACT**

As an registered architect I strongly support the retention of registration for architects throughout Australia. I believe the most appropriate model is Nationally Uniform Legislation administered by State and Territory Boards. The following reasons support this view:

- It is in the best interest of the community to maintain the registration of architects so that the public can have confidence when dealing with an architect that they are dealing with a person who is appropriately educated, qualified and experienced.
- The existing Boards roles are to impartially administer the various states' Architects Acts in an effort to "protect" the general community. It is essential that this function is performed separately to the promotion of architectural services. It would be a conflict of interest for a professional body charged with supporting and promoting its members to also function as a body that impartially "protects the public".
- In Western Australia, the Architects Board is completely self funded (that is, the financial cost of administering the Architects Act is covered by annual subscriptions).
- Members of the architectural profession place great importance on achieving and maintaining registration. This "respect" within the profession for these processes, in itself, maintains a high level of professional conduct amongst architects. This obviously has positive consequences for consumers of architectural services.
- International recognition of the qualifications of Australia n-registered architects would be severely diminished should the profession be de-regulated. This is undesirable for the profession in Australia and would have substantial long term ramifications for the Australian community internationally.

I consider this issue to be of utmost importance to both consumers of architectural services and the architectural profession and urge you to ensure that registration of architects is maintained in Australia.

Yours sincerely

**PAUL MCDONALD**  
Registered Architect (WA)