



BUILDING DESIGNERS
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Building Designers applaud industry reform legislation by NSW Government

(Sydney – 3rd June, 2020) The Building Designers Association of Australia (BDAA) has welcomed tough new laws which unanimously passed through NSW Parliament overnight.

“The passing of the *Design & Building Practitioners Bill 2019*, will mean that these reforms ensure there will be no place to hide for those responsible for the sub-standard work which has been eroding confidence in the building and construction industry for too many years,” said BDAA CEO, Chris Knierim.

The BDAA congratulated the NSW Government for creating “much needed reform”, paying tribute to the leadership of Minister for Better Regulation, Kevin Anderson, and the key role of Building Commissioner, David Chandler.

“We’ve been impressed by Mr Chandler’s direct approach, and pleased to have worked alongside him, the Minister and other key sector partners to ensure change happens,” Mr Knierim added.

The BDAA would also like to commend the opposition and cross bench parties for working together with the government on this vital piece of legislation which will build consumer confidence which has been shattered by dodgy building practices and a lack of regulation.

These reforms will ensure that all Builders, Building Designers, Engineers and other design practitioners will now be required to be registered through a rigorous assessment process.

Although there is an emphasis on residential apartment buildings due to the Mascot and Opal Towers incidents, Mr Knierim noted that “it is important to note that all classes of buildings should be treated equally to ensure there is a focus on the industry as a whole”.

The BDAA has been advocating for more than 15 years for crucial reform to the building industry and this legislation combined with the introduction of the E-Portal is a significant step in the right direction.

“The E-Planning Portal is a game-changer, a place where building designers, architects and engineers alike will be required to outline their plans and processes. These are the sort of checks and balances customers desperately need and will ensure we are all accountable for all our work all the way through from design to build.”

For more information and to organize an interview, please contact Chris Knierim (BDAA CEO) on 1300 669 854 or ceo@bdaa.com.au.

About BDAA

Building Designers Association of Australia (BDAA) is a not-for-profit, peak industry association representing Australian Building Designers involved in, or associated with the built environment nationally. Our key role is to educate and raise awareness of designers within the industry, to build and sustain relations with the key stakeholders, and to provide services to our members. www.bdaa.com.au