



MEDIA RELEASE

[DATE]

NSW PARLIAMENT URGED TO PASS VITAL BUILDING SECTOR LEGISLATION

The Association of Accredited Certifiers is urging the NSW Parliament to pass two vital pieces of legislation to increase accountability in the construction sector and improve outcomes for consumers.

The *Design and Building Practitioners Bill 2019* and the *Residential Apartments (Compliance and Enforcement Powers) Bill 2020* are due to be considered in the coming weeks.

The legislation finally ensures that building designers and building practitioners are registered in NSW and more accountable for their work on building sites.

For more than 15 years, the AAC has been calling for the registration of all building practitioners, just like Accredited Certifiers already are, to ensure accountability, improve outcomes and restore confidence.

AAC CEO Jill Brookfield said both pieces of legislation should be supported through the NSW Parliament.

“Both Bills work to establish a more robust construction industry in the NSW, which puts consumers first and weeds out operators doing the wrong thing,” Ms Brookfield said.

“The *Design and Building Practitioners Bill 2019* provides an important framework for improving accountability amongst building practitioners in NSW.

“For too long there has been a lack of accountability in the construction industry, which has hurt consumers and dragged down the industry as a whole.

“The Bill is the first step in addressing this lack of accountability and improving confidence in the entire system.

“Crucial to ensuring its operational success will be the development of robust and thorough associated regulations, which establish professional indemnity insurance requirements for these newly registered practitioners.

“To get to that stage, we need the framework established and that’s what this Bill does.”

Ms Brookfield also endorsed the passage of the *Residential Apartments (Compliance and Enforcement Powers) Bill 2020*.

“The *Residential Apartments (Compliance and Enforcement Powers) Bill 2020* provides the new Building Commissioner with the necessary powers to clean up the broader building industry.

“The Association supports the Bill, which will ensure that unscrupulous operators are identified and appropriately dealt with. “

For more information on Accredited Certifiers and the AAC, visit: www.accreditedcertifiers.com.au

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