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**BUILDING ADVISORY SERVICES BRANCH**

# **BUILDING NOTE**

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## **PREMISES STANDARDS**

### **Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010**

The purpose of this building note is to advise that proposed new *Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010* (Premises Standards) were introduced into Federal Parliament on 15 March 2010. The Premises Standards will commence operation on 1 May 2011, in line with the adoption of the next edition of the Building Code of Australia in each State and Territory.

The Premise Standards set performance requirements and provide references to technical specifications to ensure dignified access to, and use of, buildings for people with a disability. They clarify the general non-discrimination provisions of the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* in relation to the design, construction and management of buildings.

Improved building access will afford older people and people with mobility, vision and hearing impairments greater opportunities to access employment and services and to connect with family, friends and the community.

The Building Code of Australia (BCA) will mirror the national standards and thereby significantly lift national consistency in this important area of access to buildings for all people.

The Australian Human Rights Commission and the Australian Building Codes Board have agreed to jointly host education, training and awareness seminars prior to the adoption of the new national standards into the BCA.

Advice on education and awareness sessions will be forwarded when available.

In the interim the draft Premises Standards can be accessed online at [www.ag.gov.au/premisesstandards](http://www.ag.gov.au/premisesstandards)



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