

Planned Activities that could lead to Regulatory Change

Field	Content
Name of Division/Office	Classification, Human Rights and Copyright Division
Title	Implementation of Government response to the Productivity Commission Review of the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i>
Description of issue	<p>The Productivity Commission's Report of its review of the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i> (DDA) under the National Competition Principles Agreement was tabled on 14 July 2004.</p> <p>The Commission found that the DDA has provided net benefits to the Australian community. It made a number of recommendations to improve and clarify the operation of the DDA.</p> <p>The former Australian Government's response was tabled out-of-session on 27 January 2005 and then in Parliament on 8 February 2005. It affirmed the Commission's view that the DDA has an important role to play and accepted that there were areas where the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the DDA could be improved.</p> <p>The Attorney-General's Department has issued drafting instructions for the Disability Discrimination (Productivity Commission Review) Amendment and Other Measures Bill that will implement aspects of the Productivity Commission's report.</p> <p>Additional amendments that have been suggested by HREOC and the disability sector are to be included in the Bill.</p>
Date of effect	Subject to Government and Parliamentary consideration.
Consultation Opportunities	<p>The Productivity Commission consulted extensively throughout the review in developing its recommendations.</p> <p>A number of recommendations are directed to HREOC and the Government has written to HREOC in relation to those recommendations.</p> <p>The Government response indicates that the Attorney-General will write to States and Territories about particular recommendations.</p> <p>An Inter-Jurisdictional Working Group has been established for consultation with States and Territories about implementation of the Government response to the Productivity Commission Report. A meeting has already been held and the Department is in contact with members of the Group to keep them informed of important</p>

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	issues as they arise.
Expected timetable	A bill is expected to be introduced in the Spring 2008 sittings.
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