1. The Board of Architects of Queensland (the Board) administers the *Architects Act 2002* (the Act). The Act regulates the registration of architects and the practice of architecture in Queensland. The Act has been in operation since 1 January 2003. The practice of architecture has been regulated in Queensland since 1928.
2. The current provisions in the Act provide for a regulation to prescribe qualifications and competencies in the practice of architecture and the assessment entities which would assess applicant architects against these qualifications and competencies. The assessment entities are also required to conduct competency assessments against continuing competency requirements. The Board has experienced difficulty in implementing this scheme and has proposed that an alternative simplified scheme be introduced which adopts procedures approved by the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia and adopted by Australian States and Territories.
3. The Board of Architects of Queensland has proposed amendments to the Act. Subsequently, the Board and the Department of Public Works have developed proposed amendments to:
* introduce a simplified registration scheme which adopts procedures approved by the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACA) and adopted by architects’ registration boards in the Australian States and Territories. The amendments will simplify the procedural framework for registering architects by recognising the AACA requirements for Queensland registration. This will not change the qualifications and experience required to be registered as an architect
* broaden the fitness to practise provisions to enable the Board to request that a registered architect undergo a health assessment if the Board reasonably believes that the registered architect may be physically or mentally impaired and to ask the Commissioner of Police for a criminal history report providing details of convictions for offences in Queensland or elsewhere in Australia relating to an applicant architect
* permit a registered architect to register as a non-practising architect in circumstances where they do not intend to practise
* introduce a range of miscellaneous amendments in relation to matters such as restoration of registration, staffing of the Board, disciplinary and penalty provisions, disciplinary provisions relating to formerly registered architects and powers of the Board in the registration process.
1. Cabinet approved that the Architects Amendment Bill 2009 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
* [Architects Amendment Bill 2009](Attachments/ArchitectsAB10.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ArchitectsAB10Exp.pdf)