

Jane Hearn
Chair, Owners Corporation Network
By email: janehearn2010@outlook.com

Dear Ms Hearn,

Progress of the Design and Building Practitioners Bill 2019 through Parliament

I am writing to you to inform you that NSW Labor has formally requested the Berejiklian Government urgently prioritise debate of the Design and Building Practitioners Bill 2019 and to bring forward it's slated 'powers' bill in May. Parliament is due to resume for a limited session on May 12 to debate a funding package for tenants and landlords and we have requested the relevant building Bills be included on the schedule of business. I have attached our request to this letter for your information.

Given the Government's push to prioritise building, construction and infrastructure as a way to stimulate the economy during this health crisis, we believe the legislation should be voted on as soon as possible. This will ensure building works going forward will be of a high quality with rigorous checks and balances.

NSW Labor has long called for significant reforms to the building sector. We have advocated for legislative change in the Parliament and I have spent many hundreds of hours consulting with stakeholders on how to best improve regulation of the sector.

The Design and Building Practitioners Bill 2019, along with amendments from Labor (most importantly the registration of engineers), will be the first step in restoring consumer confidence in the sector. We are also eager to see the Government's slated 'powers' legislation which gives the Commissioner resources and powers and will work with you to ensure this legislation meets industry and consumer needs.

While we wait for a response from the Government, I would urge you to contact Minister Anderson's office to support bringing this legislation forward. If you would like to speak with me further regarding either of the Bills, please contact Tilly South on tilly.south@parliament.nsw.gov.au or on 0422 998 155.

Kind regards,

Yasmin Catley MP