

From: [Andy Robinson](#)
To: [Legislation, Delegated](#)
Subject: Inquiry into access to Australian Standards adopted in delegated legislation
Date: Friday, 28 August 2015 1:25:32 PM
Attachments:

To the [Delegated Legislation Committee](#),

Dear committee,

Australian standards referred to in legislation, are, to my mind, not reasonably available to the man in the street or small business, Where they are meant to be the law, I believe that they should be in the legislation which is freely and readily available to all citizens and is distributable. What else if we expect compliance and wish to educate? Now, without reasonable access to a referred standard, one has no access to the law. One cannot verify compliance on anybody's part, nor, I think, educate oneself appropriately. Understanding of the requirement can remain shallow, and be easily distorted without access to the source.

In my particular case, the Residential Tenancies Act of 1987 and Residential Tenancies Regulations of 1989 is applicable. The regulations refer to Australian standards. As a small property management business, we could not justify the cost of purchasing the Building Code of Australia. We did consider it. Our tenants most certainly cannot either. How can we determine whether the standard is met if we don't know what the standard is? I believe we could be better property managers and provide a better service for our landlords and tenants alike if we had a better understanding of the standards to which the legislation refers and that requires that the standards be as freely available as the legislation itself.

Yours faithfully,

Andy Robinson

(property manager)