



Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

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LEGAL PROFESSION REFORM BILL INTRODUCED

Legislation to establish a joint regulatory regime for the legal profession with Victoria was introduced into State Parliament yesterday, Attorney General Greg Smith SC said.

“This legislation will deliver benefits to lawyers, law firms and consumers alike. It will simplify and standardise regulatory obligations and cut red tape for lawyers. And it will provide their clients with streamlined costs disclosure requirements and stronger billing rules,” Mr Smith said.

“This is a win-win regime which will cover about 70 per cent of Australia’s lawyers and their clients.”

Under the arrangement with Victoria, NSW will host the Legal Services Council, which will be made up of members from both states, an Admissions Committee, as well as a Commissioner for Uniform Legal Services Regulation.

The Legal Profession Uniform Law was recently passed by the Victorian Parliament and is soon to be debated in the NSW Parliament.

“Once NSW and Victoria have launched the new regime, we will continue to invite other states and territories to monitor the success of this initiative and to consider signing on to these important reforms, so they can capture even more lawyers.”

“Together with Victoria, we are pleased to lead the implementation of this important reform to the regulation of the legal profession as it continues to expand into new markets.”