

# FACT SHEET

## ***Health Service Establishments Amendment Bill 2011***

The *Health Service Establishments Act 2006* provides for the licensing of private health service establishments, that is, private day-procedure centres, private hospitals; and private residential care services.

The *Health Service Establishments Act* is due to commence in 2011 by proclamation when the *Health Service Establishments Regulations 2011* are made.

The Bill amends the *Health Service Establishments Act* to provide that if a licensee of an establishment intends to undertake significant alterations or extensions to the establishment, the licensee must first obtain approval from the Secretary Department of Health and Human Services.

The amendments:

- clarify what constitutes a material alteration to or extension of an establishment as referred to in section 20; and
- provide that a licensee is to make application to the Secretary for approval of plans for any material alteration or extension early in the planning phase; and
- give the Secretary the power to approve or refuse to approve such plans, alteration or extension.

The amendments link to the requirements and approval processes under the *Building Act 2000*.

The Bill also provides for the power to issue infringement notices for certain lesser offences under the Act and their enforcement under the *Monetary Penalties Enforcement Act 2005* rather than proceeding summarily in relation to those offences.