The federal Government has introduced legislation putting computer games on the same classification regime as films.

The Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment Bill will do away with the G (8+, General) classification for computer and console games, replacing it with the PG rating used for films.

The M (15+, Mature) rating will be replaced with M (Mature), while the MA (15+, Mature Restricted will become MA (15+ Mature accompanied).

The R and X ratings will continue to apply to films only.

While game classifications have been given new titles, the definition of the material covered by each classification has not been changed.

"The Bill responds to community demands for a simple, common sense system that is the same across all classified products," Attorney General Philip Ruddock said.

Less than half of the population had been aware of the separate classification scheme for games, according to research by the Office of Film and Literature Classification.

Mr Ruddock also announced that Des Clarke had been re-appointed as Director of the Classification Board. Mr Clarke has held the post since 2000, and the reappointment will see him stay in the position until April 2007.