

Disaster Management and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Submitter Comments:

With regard to the definitions of incident control expertise, the new legislation has a strong bias that only professional firefighters from Fire & Rescue have the required experience to manage the command and control of all incidents in the state. No value has been placed on the level of the very experienced, qualified and trained volunteers that already exist across the state that have been managing large scale incidents for many years (most times with very little help from Fire & Rescue) who know their communities and the local resources they can call on to assist. We are told that power can be delegated down by the Commissioner with regard to Incident Control but unfortunately from previous experience many senior members always think they know best and have no respect for the knowledge and experience that RFS volunteers have. The rural communities of Queensland deserve to have the most experienced person available with the local knowledge to look after their communities in times of urgent need.