

**EMERGENCY SERVICES REFORM AMENDMENT BILL 2023; STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE BILL 2023;
MARINE RESCUE QUEENSLAND BILL 2023**

Submission No: 4
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Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: See attachment
Submitter Comments:

James Wilkinson

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Inquiry into Marine Rescue Queensland Bill 2023

Private Submission:

I urge this Committee to pass this Bill so as to allow the Formation of “MARINE RESCUE QUEENSLAND”.

Marine Rescue functions in Queensland currently are undertaken by 2 separate organisations: Volunteer Marine Rescue Qld. and the Australian Volunteer Coastguard.

There is much confusion amongst boaters with this system as a boater may belong to one of the Flotillas/Units within these organisations and not be covered by any other unit. Each Flotilla/unit sets its own Membership Fees and user fees and these can vary widely between units.

If a boater enjoys boating in a number of different locations along the Qld. Coast, to get any sort of breakdown coverage they potentially need to belong to a number of different units.

There is no consistency in this system and it creates massive confusion amongst boaters.

We need to have a standard system within Qld. where a boater is covered throughout the entire State to enable them to get assistance at any time and anywhere and under standard arrangements.

Additionally, the formation of Marine Rescue Queensland, will give standard support to the Volunteers so that all Units are treated equally and they will not have the added burden of trying to raise funds to try to keep their Units

operating. They will be able to concentrate on the task at hand, namely assisting Qld boaties and offering them a professional, efficient service.

We definitely need consistency and simplicity in providing a quality service to the Queensland boating Public and the formation of Marine Rescue Queensland will offer this.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jim Wilkinson