



23 March 2016

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Fire and Emergency Services (Domestic Smoke Alarms) Amendment Bill 2016

Submission No 002

Research Director  
Parliamentary Committee  
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee  
[lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Chair,

The Plumbers Union Queensland supports the Bill before your Committee.

The Plumbers Union is the responsible Union for sprinkler fitting fire protection work. A significant number of our members work within the fire protection industry and we hold a strong interest in the public policy developments of this area.

We agree that improving domestic smoke alarm legislation will result in safer homes for Queenslanders. There is no doubt that smoke alarms save lives and as such the location of these alarms and their set up as well as quality is vital. The public trust that a smoke alarm will provide them with an advance warning of a house fire and therefore provide the ability to escape the dwelling.

The Plumbers Union supports the findings that interconnectedness of smoke alarms is crucial in ensuring how effective smoke alarms are. We also support the requirement to install photoelectric alarms in bedrooms, hallways servicing bedrooms and any other storey of a domestic dwelling. We further agree that these alarms should be powered by an enduring power source which is hardwired or a 10 year lithium battery.

In addition the Union would support the encouragement of sprinklers systems being considered for fire protection in larger scale dwellings. Although we understand that sprinkler systems are an additional cost to the home owner there is no doubt that this form of fire protection system provides enhanced safety outcomes.

As part of the awareness campaign to be undertaken by Government in communicating and advising of the legislative change we consider that it would be suitable to include the encouragement of sprinkler systems for large dwellings.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on this important matter. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact myself, Gary O'Halloran, State Secretary on 1800 653 118 [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Gary O'Halloran  
**STATE SECRETARY**

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