

Public Works and Utilities Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
PWUC@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Chair,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the Plumbing and Drainage Bill 2017.

The National Fire Industry Association (NFIA) is an Australia-wide community of Fire Protection contractors and their people, suppliers, supporters and stakeholders representing a wide and varied membership from the smallest sub-contractor through to large Australia-wide construction and service businesses.

We stand together with our members who work at the frontline of fire protection in Australia and represent over 70 contractors who undertake the significant majority of all fire protection construction and service work in Queensland.

Our mission is to partner with our members in building a better industry through training, quality and professionalism, thereby creating better outcomes for customers and rewarding career opportunities for the Industry's people, as well as making Australia safer.

NFIA believes that by continuing to grow the character, spirit and performance of our industry, we create a better future for those who will follow us and for their customers.

The NFIA organisation is supported by a highly professional National office which is committed to NFIA's vision of an Australian world-leading fire protection industry. NFIA is a full-on, hands-on cohort of contractors, their suppliers and supporters who are passionately committed to improving the Industry.

The National Fire Industry Association (NFIA) supports the proposed Plumbing and Drainage Bill 2017.

We support the creation of a mechanical services occupational licence to complement the contractor licence regime that is currently in place. Mechanical services work is complex and also vital to the ongoing health and safety of the community within our built environment. NFIA considers that this is necessary reform and we welcome it.

As active members of the Services Trades Council we are strong supporters of the consolidation of the services trades within the QBCC under this body. Within a building and construction context mechanical services form a part of the broader services trades (fire protection and plumbing) and it is necessary that they are regulated in the same way.

If mechanical services is not included as part of the STC areas of responsibility this will lead to duplication and unnecessary cost. Further, it will also lead to contractors and their workforce being sent to various areas within the boarder Government and this generates a high level of frustration.

NFIA would appreciate the opportunity to present to the committee if you resolve to hold hearings on this vital legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on this important matter and we thank you in advance for your consideration.

Should you require any further information please contact Wayne Smith [REDACTED]

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Wayne Smith', written in a cursive style.

Wayne Smith
Chief Executive Officer
National Fire Industry Association Australia