

**From:** [Mitchell Worthington](#)  
**To:** [TPWC](#)  
**Subject:** LATE SUBMISSION - RE: draft plumbing and drainage bill  
**Date:** Thursday, 15 March 2018 7:56:06 PM

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Dear Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the draft plumbing and drainage bill.

I apologise this is being submitted past the due date but urge you to take my opinion into account.

We operate our own Air Conditioning company in Brisbane and consider the proposed bill completely unacceptable and inadequate.

The current HVAC environment is unsafe and unregulated enough as it is without further degradation of it being polluted by other trades who are not adequately qualified. A specified trade takes 4 years for a reason, to specialise in a particular trade and that trade alone. It is not logical to be able to leapfrog between trades piggybacking on 2 week courses.

Everyday i am placed in unsafe situations largely due to inadequate, unsafe and illegal works completed by Certificate 2 holders. It is evident how big of an error of judgment it was to introduce this course, yet now you propose to further ruin and dilute out trade with further inadequately qualified persons?

The Labour Government is meant to be all about small business and supporting them yet we struggle to keep our doors open year after year, especially in Winter when HVAC work is scarce, Certificate 2 holders are advertising work at prices that undercut everyone else and resort to illegal servicing and repairs.

Air Conditioning is something that close to every person in QLD is exposed to on a daily basis. By not ensuring this industry is adequately regulated and only skilled operators are performing the work you are in theory endangering every person in this state. I am sorry to say but it is going to take a death, similar to 'the pink batts' saga, to bring this issue into the media and get the exposure it deserves.

**What is required here is an occupational refrigeration and air conditioning licence with \$0 threshold under the QBCC AND NOTHING LESS THAN THIS. The draft bill is confusing and unacceptable and will cause further damage to our trade.**

Some of the work I witness day to day includes gas leaks, certificate 2 holders topping up units and releasing gas into the atmosphere and inferior installs with major gas leaks on flares all contributing to greenhouse emissions and global warming.

By proposing the HVAC industry be put under the same umbrella as Plumbing and Drainage is an insult to all of those HVAC Technicians who have done the hard yards for 4 years and dedicated that time to learning a trade and the skills to serve the greater community. The enrolment of new apprentices has dropped to nearly half over the last 5 years and it is because they are not being protected by the people they voted for at the last election.

I urge you to step up and consider what you feel you would deserve and be entitled to if you were a 4 year trade qualified Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic.

Regards,

Mitch Worthington  
M & C Air Conditioning Pty Ltd

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Kindest Regards,

*Mitchell Worthington*

***M & C AIR CONDITIONING PTY LTD***  
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