

The Secretary, Senate Standing Committee on Rural And Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Dear Dr. Thomson,

Thank you for facilitating the hearing today. We appreciate the Committee's interest in our Organisation's affairs.

The evidence available to RAAus from more than thirty years of operations is that the present Medical Standard applicable to RAAus operations is demonstrably appropriate. The expense, cost and time to a Member of a more interventionist Medical examination is not justified when applied with the pilot training, aircraft passenger limit, maintenance and operations limitations.

The RAAus operates in a simpler regime than General Aviation, particularly concerning aircraft that can seat more than two persons, and can operate in adverse weather conditions. A medical intervention standard to satisfy those operating conditions may be warranted but comment on that topic is not within our remit.

It must be noted that incidental costs are a direct barrier to Recreational Aviation. The imposition of any cost, Medical, Security, licence must be safety-justified for the outlay it demands. RAAus and the CASA have settled this balance point of Medical, weight and passenger numbers based on the evidence. Our submission is that the existing regime works, allows for innovation and is safe.

By way of correction, a RAAus registered aircraft may operate with a variable pitch propeller and with retractable wheels.

Yours truly,

Tony King Acting Chairman Recreational Aviation Australia Ltd.