

SUBMISSION – 29/01/25

I am born and raised in Queensland. I am a Police Officer and in 2017 I joined the State Emergency Service Queensland on a volunteer basis to help my community and assist those in need. However, upon volunteering I was unable to actually do anything without enrolling in, waiting for commencement and then completing the ridiculously long and boring course to do minor things like climb a ladder. Because I have a government job the last thing, I want to be doing is sitting in a government building for hours on end or completing boring courses with no recognition of prior experience. I terminated my service.

To address these issues and make it more appealing for members of the public, I would suggest those with any experience in a field be recognised for related activities. For example, if you are a chainsaw mechanic you are excused from doing a course to operate one. If you have a marine licence or work on a boat, you are excused from doing a course to be part of a crew on a boat. Courses for very minor activities like climbing a ladder are removed unless a person is deemed to lack that particular skill. If this is not possible then at least reduce meaningless courses or allow people to just volunteer conduct the activity and be supervised and learn as they go.