

Department of Police and Emergency Management

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26 October 2010

Dr K Dermody
Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Defence and Trade
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

Thank you for your correspondence dated 1 October 2010 and that from the Chair of the Committee to the Premier of Tasmania dated 1 October 2010, seeking submissions regarding the *Defence Legislation Amendment (Security of Defence Premises) Bill 2010*.

In the letters it is indicated that the Bill has been re-referred, and outlined that the principle issues are the training requirement for officers authorised to exercise deadly force, the provision of information to people entering defence premises concerning search provisions and the adequacy of training and equipment.

Tasmania Police believes that the Commonwealth, and specifically Defence, will put in place and have an obligation to provide training for security officers at an appropriate level in relation to any legislative authorities, especially stop, search and detention issues for people and the use of lethal force. These are issues already faced by police organisations in Australia and it is believed that the training requirements would be no less rigorous. By way of example, the Australian Federal Police, Protective Service course is conducted over 13 weeks and armed officers are then deployed into airports and other major Commonwealth institutions. Initial training for other policing services across Australia range from 3 months to 9 months in length but involve considerably greater training requirements.

The proposed amendments to the *Defence Act 1903* and *Australian Federal Police Act 1971* as outlined in the Bill are supported by Tasmania Police on the basis that training and accountability provisions are put in place.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this particular matter, please contact Inspector W Moore, Executive Support, on (03) 6230 2418.

Yours sincerely

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Commissioner of Police