

Dear Julie Dennett

Thank you for offering the NSW Fire Brigades the opportunity to make a submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on the Privacy Legislation Amendment (Emergencies and Disasters) Bill 2006.

The NSW Fire Brigades supports the amendment of the Privacy Act 1988 to recognise the importance of sharing personal information between responding agencies and organisations (within reasonable limits) to the effective response and recovery of the community from emergencies and disasters.

The NSW Fire Brigades further hopes that the Federal Privacy Commissioner will work with State and Territory Privacy Commissioners, the Australian Law Reform Commission's Inquiry into the Privacy Act, and the NSW Law Reform Commission's inquiry into NSW privacy legislation to promote the incorporation of corresponding provisions in privacy legislation in their jurisdictions, with the aim of having a uniform approach to such situations, as emergencies and disasters often impact on more than one jurisdiction.

If you would like any further information from the NSW Fire Brigades, please contact our Privacy Contact Officer, Ms Anne Pickles, using the contact details below.

Yours sincerely

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