

Submission to the Independent Aviation Safety Regulation Review panel:

Name: William Waters

I am a Glider pilot and a member of the GFA.

I am an Australian citizen.

I believe that my freedom to fly a glider (an un-powered aircraft) is a constitutional right that is now under challenge by the **Civil Aviation Safety Authority** otherwise known as **CASA**.

I believe CASA has no constitutional right to oversee gliding as sport. Any rights they believe they have, are misconstrued by the word "Civil".

I believe that sport and recreational flying generally, in Australia, is now considered sport and recreation for CASA.

CASA have acted unconscionably in raiding the GFA Offices, unannounced. This is a total betrayal of trust on their behalf.

Any adverse findings they have found are likely to be clerical errors at best and oversights at worst.

Many years of mutual co-operation, many years of mutual collaboration, many years of mutual trust, gone.

Nobody prides themselves more on their reputation for safety, than an individual member of the GFA.

I have no doubt that this pride is felt by members of other sport and recreation flying clubs as well.

Gliding in Australia was well organised and well (self) governed long before Australia became a sovereign nation. The gliding community of Australia has contributed more to CASA than they realise. If they want mutual respect, they should learn to reciprocate.

I believe that CASA, given more control than they already exercise, of sport and recreational flying, will result in the ultimate demise of flying as a sport, for all but the very, very few fortunate of the population, in Australia.

Below is a prepared missive from the President of The Gliding Federation of Australia with which I totally concur.

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Sport and Recreation aviation engagement, is critical for Australia's future.

Core messages for the panel to consider include:

- That Part 149 Approved Organisation model is the best way forward,
- Funding and the method of fair audit of the GFA requires ongoing consultation,
- GFA is held in high regard by aviation generally and is well placed in cooperation with CASA to build upon its existing administration and oversight of gliding in Australia,
- The punitive, authoritarian and disrespectful attitude currently demonstrated by the regulator is contrary to the aims of a vibrant, successful, diverse and thriving aviation sector.

- A Ministerial Policy is urgently needed directing CASA to adopt a core mission to support and promote gliding, and sport/recreational activity in Australia.

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Thank you for your consideration and appreciation of the importance of the Gliding Federation of

Australia in the sport and recreational aviation sector.

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Yours sincerely,

William Waters