

**Ambulance
+ more**

First Aid for all Territorians



Ms Julia Knight

Secretary, Social Policy Scrutiny Committee

GPO Box 3721

Darwin NT 0801

Via email SPSC@nt.gov.au

13 November 2018

Dear Ms Knight

RE: Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2018, Serial No.69

In response to the Criminal Code Amendment Bill 2018, Serial No.69 put forward by the Department of the Attorney General and Justice's proposing that the following amendments to the Criminal Code:

Clause 4: Section 1 amended (Definitions)

Clause 5: Section 187 amended (Definition)

Clause 6: Section 188A amended (Assaults on workers)

Clause 7: Section 189A amended (Assaults on police)

Clause 8: Section 316 amended (Indictment containing count of murder or manslaughter)

Clause 9: Part XI, Division 13 inserted

Clause 10: Repeal of Act

St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc. (St John NT) support in principle the proposed amendments that will expand section 189A of the Criminal Code to be inclusive of 'emergency workers' under a newly inserted definition.

St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc.

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In regards to the definition of 'emergency worker' which includes paramedics and ambulance officers, we do ask that this definition be expanded to include Patient Transport Officers (PTO), who are also front line emergency workers on St John NT ambulances and respond to incidents that expose them to the danger of being assaulted. St John NT do not employ any front line emergency worker under the title ambulance officer.

Every year, on average one in six Territorians uses an ambulance and our paramedics and PTOs attend more than 52,000 cases across the NT. To be able to care for those in need and help our community, our paramedics and PTOs need to be able to do their job uninterrupted and in a safe environment. We welcome the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code.

Yours sincerely



Judith Barker

Chief Executive Officer

St John Ambulance Australia (NT)

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