Submission to the independent aviation safety regulation review panel:

Name: _Kenneth John McCracken
I am a Glider pilot and a member of the GFA.
I am also a PPL licensed pilot.

A thriving aviation sector that includes strong Sport 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.
- My experience as a glider pilot and as a GA pilot has exposed me to the relative merits of administration under CASA and the GFA. There is no doubt in my mind that sailplane gliding is substantially safer under the administration of the GFA for many reasons but substantially because the culture is one of ownership, mentoring, care for each other and collegiality. Further, accountability, transparency and honesty within the gliding movement far exceeds anything that I have witnessed under the administration of a statutory body.

My experience and qualifications are as follows:

- Forty years as a glider pilot with about 2000 hours flying time.
- Thirty years as a GA pilot with about 1000 hours flying time.
- My badge levels in gliding are “Triple Diamond”.
- As a glider pilot I have served as CFI, RTO Ops NSW Central and RTO Sports NSW, my rating is Level 2 Instructor with Level 3 authorisation (train the trainer and operational conduct audits), I launch and instruct off both aerotow and winch, I have both basic and advanced towing permits. I am a CASA delegate and train aerotow pilots.
- I am formation endorsed and have performed at several air shows, I train in basic and advanced glider aerobatics and have performed several glider aerobatic displays at air shows, I have owned and operated DH82’s Cessna 182 and currently own a

Thank you for your consideration and appreciation of the importance of the Gliding Federation of Australia in the sport and recreational aviation sector.

Signed: K.J. McCracken FAIB JP