Support: I support this proposed change with modification(s).

Reason:

2.2.3.1. (1)(b)(ii) ---Determination of Requirement for a Fire Alarm System
[b] --)contains a Group G, Division 2 or 3 major occupancy
[ii] --)in a building more than 1 storey in building height, or

Proposed:
ii] --)in a building more than 2 STORIES in building height, or

Explanation:

The determination of a storey would make all "bank barns" two storey structures. The common bank barn is still being constructed or added onto as it provides easy access to an uppermost storey. Any addition (even a one storey addition) onto an existing bank barn where the building area exceeds 600m² would now require a fire alarm system as the structure would be two stories in building height. Most bank barns have hay/straw storage on the upper level with animals housed below for ease of bedding the stalls.

Many existing chicken barns are 2 storeys in building height and additions made to these structures would result in the need for the installation of a fire alarm system.

Fires in a bank barn generally begin in the storage mow above and as fire propagates upwards, there is ample time for workers to evacuate the structure and take timely action as noted in the F/O statements. The smoke and heat generated from a barn fire would be readily apparent to workers within the building.

The fire alarm components required to be installed in dusty locations would require constant repair/replacement or monitoring to ensure working condition. Most have an internal fan to keep the internal workings dust free which could introduce a source of ignition (fan) in a dry dusty location. These fire alarm components would also be subject to actuation without cause due to the environment resulting in farmers becoming desensitized to the sounds of the alarms and disabling them until their next inspection.

F11: To notify persons in a timely manner, of the need to take action in an emergency.

F13: To notify emergency responders, in a timely manner, of the need to take action in an emergency.

OS1.5: Limit the probability of risk of injury a person in or adjacent to the building will be exposed to risk, of being delayed in or impeded from moving to a safe place during a fire emergency.

OS1.2: Limit the probability of risk of injury a person in or adjacent to the building will be exposed to risk, caused by fire or explosion impacting areas beyond its point of origin.