

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 28 June 2017 10:57 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** New Submission to Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Mr Colin Breguet  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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Dear Honorable members of Parliament of the Legislative Council Select Committee.

My name is Colin Breguet and I am a career firefighter employed by the MFB with over 27 years service. I am making this submission in support of the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017.

I have spent most of my career protecting the Western suburbs of Melbourne and have witnessed first hand the expansion of both residential and commercial properties in this region. I believe that over the last 25 years the fire service has not kept up with this growth as we have had no significant increase in resources during that time. I am not in a position to speculate on all the reasons behind the lack of increased fire coverage however it is plainly obvious that the MFB-CFA boundary is clearly part of the problem. A large percentage of our turnouts are into CFA areas which indicates to me that there is a lack of resources within that area. As an example there is a large distribution warehouse in CFA area that is a considerable distance from the nearest fire station, in recognition of this the management of both fire services have agreed to what is called an enhanced response which means if there is an alarm of fire at that premises extra fire appliances are responded. I believe this solution is flawed on two counts, number one by simply sending more fire trucks is pointless if all of them are going to arrive at the fire well after the alarm is raised and secondly adding more trucks responding under lights and sirens puts more road users and firefighters at risk of having a motor vehicle accident whilst responding. I feel that the proposed fire service reforms would go a long way to alleviating a lot of the issues around the anomalies that exist due to the MFB-CFA boundaries as they stand.

I would also like to add that I live in Bacchus Marsh which is protected wholly by CFA volunteers and under the proposed reforms I am confident that the volunteers will not be affected in any way and they will be able to respond to emergencies in Bacchus Marsh as they have always done.

In closing I would like to thank the Select Committee for allowing these submissions and ask that all

members of the committee view these reforms with an open mind considering that for a lot of people this is understandably an emotive issue however these reforms are necessary to improve community and firefighter safety as well as creating a modern firefighting delivery model that will serve Victorians well into the future.

Kind regards,  
Colin Breguet.  
MFB Senior Leading Firefighter.



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File1:

File2:

File3: