

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 29 June 2017 9:23 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 Michael Pope  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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I fully support the Fire Service Reform.

I have been a career fire fighter for 4 years in the MFB. Previous to this I was a police officer in Victoria Police for over 12 years. As a fire fighter I have worked at Melbourne East, Glen Waverley and Oakleigh and attended multiple emergencies with the CFA. Previous to being a fire fighter I was a police officer for 12 years in Dandenong, Narre Warren and Victoria.

In the past 16 years I have attended countless emergencies in the outer built up suburban fringe. I see firsthand the importance of a timely attendance by a fully trained crew. It can often mean the difference between life and death. I have been to countless emergencies such as house fires, car accidents, workplace accidents, trappings, cardiac arrests etc where the current system has let the community down. Some examples of incidents I've attended include; some volunteers not being BA trained and therefore unable to enter a building fire to look for patrons. Volunteers not turning up at all to serious incidents in their own area and therefore victims waiting absurd times. I have seen the damage a fire can do in a matter of minutes and being on scene as a police officer waiting for a fire truck to arrive. I have been to car accidents with serious injuries where the only firefighters in attendance are volunteers who aren't EMR capable and unable to assist. I have been enroute to jobs in CFA volunteer areas as an MFB fire fighter and been given a 'stop' from the CFA volunteer truck saying they were on scene and had assessed the incident. This was in order for us not to attend and turn around. We were arriving at the scene at the time and were there 3-4 minutes before the CFA truck had even arrived.

I live in a suburb 40km south east of Melbourne CBD with my wife and two very young kids. I spend a large amount of my time and many nights at work where they are home alone. I know that the closest fire stations are Narre Warren North, Narre Warren East and Berwick. All volunteer only stations. The closest integrated station is Hallam. I hate to think the damage that would occur to my house if I had to wait for a

fire truck to respond. I pay a fire service levy just like everyone else but I know firsthand that I am getting a second rate service where I live.

The Fire Service Reform is an absolute no brainer. The community doesn't care who arrives in time of an emergency. They just want the fastest response and best trained personnel there. That's what the Fire Service Reform will provide. It's time to think what is best for the community and put the political games aside.

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File1:

File2:

File3: