

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 29 June 2017 10:15 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 Paul Rouget
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Dear Committee Members,

I am a Qualified Firefighter stationed at Dandenong Fire Station. And I am a resident of Macclesfield who are covered by a Volunteer only station.

As a firefighter and a resident of this state, I cannot believe we find ourselves in the situation of having 2 fire services that offer career or professional services. When asked what I do for a living, I respond with "I'm a firefighter with the CFA". The response I get is "I thought they where volunteer only", and the next question I get is why do we have 2 services, and isn't that the greatest waste of public money you've ever seen. Very difficult to argue with them.

I'm sure if the public knew that the outer suburbs of Melbourne ie Ferntree Gully, Carrum etc etc where covered by a volunteer service delivery (that are not obliged to turnout if they don't want too) they would be very disappointed and suprised. Im sure they rank their property inline with other neighbouring properties in Patterson River and Hallam, yet they don't receive the same service.

This needs to change.

We need a entity that decides the areas that need to be covered by a professional fire service and not let it be decided by factional entities with alternate motives, whether it be union or VFBV.

We as a state cannot afford to cover the whole state with Paid Firefighters, I understand this. However those who are, need to understand the service delivery they receive and accept the condition of living in those areas. I live in one of these areas, and accept the risk, as I know it is not practicable to have a paid fire service. If one was on offer though, you would as a tax paying resident accept this as opposed to a volunteer

service delivery. We need to set a standard based on risk (Population, Industry, Hazards) and cater to this, The model we have now simply does not do this.

If you would like to discuss any of the above please do not hesitate to call

Kind regards
Paul Rouget

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File1:

File2:

File3: