

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** Ellen Ruth Shepherd [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 30 June 2017 12:38 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** fire services (Reform) Bill before the State Govt

Sirs  
Having been reared in the country in NSW 80 yrs ago, and now still residing in the country in Victoria I have had first hand experiences with the trauma of bush fires. jI was residing in Bendigo when the disastrous fires came within a few metres of the city with only one death which was dreadful but a miracle that 60 homes went with no more casualties. Over 70 people lost their lives in other areas incl catastrophic fires in the Marysville area.

I am now in Horsham. My son lost his home and contents in the last Grampians fire. No lives were lost thanks to the work of the CFA with their local knowledge of the areas, even though the fires were extensive and complex.

The CFA in all cases did the most sterling job imaginable. There are so many amazing stories of sacrifice and devotion to their volunteering that for this organisation to be tampered with in any way at all such as splitting the groups up would be disastrous.

The Victorian country areas need the CFA to be retained as it currently is. We need it to be so more than ever. thankyou

Yours sincerely

Ellen Ruth Shepherd  
[REDACTED]