

Kirra Vanzetti

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 30 June 2017 5:43 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 - submission

Importance: High

Categories: CONFIDENTIAL REQUEST

I have been a professional fire-fighter with the MFB for over 30 years. While stationed at various stations near our turnout border and on various task forces to major fires, I have seen countless examples of:

- Unacceptably long times taken by CFA appliances to arrive at fires (more volunteer than professional staff. Well over 7 minutes)
- CFA volunteer crews turning up at fires unqualified to do jobs required (eg nobody available as trained BA operators. Hence limiting internal attack on a fire).
- Weekday turnouts having little or no volunteers available (due to working other jobs)
- Fire calls held back so volunteers can get to a fire first
- Various problems with interoperability between services at major fires (especially not using available resources)

I refer to an example of my brother's house catching fire and the CFA volunteers that attended not isolating the gas main despite the fact that it was one meter from where the fire started. This was a basic but critical error that was left unaddressed.

The level of service provided to the occupants of the CFA fire district is vastly inferior to the MFB fire district. Resources should be allocated on population density and risk. Safety for life and property is the issue here. The evidence should be clear. The general public has been blissfully unaware of the issues here. It is time to educate them and fix the problem.

Please keep this submission confidential.

Regards

[REDACTED]

South Melbourne Fire Station

[REDACTED]

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