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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 30 June 2017 7:57 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Submission to parliament committee for fire services review.

LCSC@parliament.vic.gov.au

I wish for this email and submission to kept confidential.

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

Hello, my name is [REDACTED], I am a firefighter Level 1 at Patterson River Fire Station.

Having only been working for the CFA for just under a year, I feel like I have a fresh set of eyes on the current situation we face with the proposed reform of the fire services. From what I have gathered over the last few months, it has come to my attention that whilst there is great debate as to what the outcome should be regardless of all that one fact still remains.

Providing the highest possible quality of service to our community.

It is for this very reason that I joined the fire brigade and why even as a young child I wanted to be a firefighter; to help my community in the most effective and safest way to do so.

In order for me to do my job in the most efficient and safest way not only for myself, my crew but my community I need help. It is simply a task I cannot complete on my own. I need my crew and my crew needs a strong force of reinforcement especially in areas which are unfortunately currently lacking in service delivery. With the new proposed reform of the fire services we; as a current single responding appliance will be guaranteed to have a second truck alongside us and dispatched within 8 mins. Not only does that enable me and my crew to be in a better position in a life threatening environment but it allows us to perform rescue in a more efficient and timely manner and helps to diminish potentially horrific incidents quicker due to extra numbers. On top of these benefits I wish to reinforce my original point, we will in fact increase the quality of service to our community, continuing to protect them and keep them safe.

By no means am I denying that we do not need volunteers, we need them. They provide a substantial amount of support for our community and career firefighters alike, however they simply cannot do it all, likewise with the 4 up in career stations we cannot provide the level of service our community deserves. Let us join and create this reform of FRV and continue to work alongside our volunteers in our service delivery.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



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