

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

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

I am Kieran Plummer, I hold a level 2 firefighter position at Point Cook Fire Station and have been working for CFA since February 2016.

I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons:

- Since becoming a firefighter I have seen firsthand the stress that has come to many of the people I look up to in the job. The people that have witnessed many unpredictable and dangerous situations that have arisen from the current and outdated structure. I think the proposed changes would help solve this unsafe and unknown workplace we as firefighters have to work with on a daily basis.
- It is a matter of safety that firefighters have sufficient support when turning out and attempting a fire attack. Guaranteed backup means extra personnel that have appropriate skills will be always available, which gives our community and all firefighters the best chance of staying safe.
- I believe better response times coupled with appropriately skilled manning will mean enhanced community safety. Skilled training, specialist response and appropriate equipment will also ensure the safety of community. All this will be enhanced through changes to the current structure.
- The volunteer service will not be affected by having one professional fire service. Volunteers will still have a vital role to play in community safety; the change will only bring more guaranteed safety of the community.
- I believe both professional and volunteer firefighters deserve modern fire services that meet the needs of our ever growing communities. This reform will benefit volunteers as it has included a package to assist with volunteer retention and recruitment across the CFA; and includes funding for volunteer station upgrades.

Yours sincerely,



Kieran Plummer Firefighter

Point Cook Fire Brigade – 85-93 Dunnings Road, Point Cook, Vic 3030