

I have been a volunteer CFA member for almost 55 years and have attended some 3,000 incidents. The Volunteer Brigade that I am a member of was "Integrated" some 5 years ago simply because it was part of a secret EBA agreement signed off during the Royal Commission into the 2009 Fires, that Volunteers were completely unaware of. Not because it was needed operationally but because it was part of an industrial agreement to which no Volunteers were consulted (Brigade, District and Region )

The relevance of this information is to provide an insight into the disrespect and lack of consultation by UFU, CFA and Government during the last decade.

The 400 page EBA gives the UFU the power of Veto over the CFA Board, CEO, and CO. as well as giving the Union power of control over the 60,000 volunteers. Both C.O's. of the CFA and MFB have publically declared that their roles would be undermined to the extent of placing Community Safety in jeopardy. (Both have resigned from their roles)

The proposal to form a new Emergency body to replace the MFB and accommodate all career firefighters including all CFA Staff is equally flawed. Not only has there been absolutely NO CONSULTATION WITH THE VFBA or the Community, such a move would give the UFU control over the CFA and the Volunteers through their control of the CFA Staff.

The presumptive legislation is just a further example of the dual standards that the Government and UFU display so dishonestly. The Jack Rush QC opinion illustrates this dishonesty. My record of attendance at some 3,000 incidents would stand up against many Career Firefighters record yet any claim by me would require higher onus of proof than ANY Career Firefighter.

Although I have the impression that this submission is a complete waste of time, I still present it in the hope that others have also done so and that some notice may be taken.

I have no doubt that the attitude of the UFU (not necessarily all their members) and some of the Government consider volunteers "SCABS" doing their members out of jobs!!

They have already destroyed the CFA even if this Bill is rejected – I really despair for our Victorian Communities.



John H. WYNN

