

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Garry Green [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 3 July 2017 12:32 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: fire service reform

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

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

My name is Garry and I have been a professional CFA firefighter for 10 years. I currently hold the rank of Qualified Firefighter and are based at Caroline Springs fire station. I write to express my support for the proposed fire services reform.

As a member of a volunteer brigade I have been paged to attend house fires, were the time taken to stop what I was doing, drive to the station and get my protective clothing on before getting on the truck and proceeding to, and arriving at the fire, can be 15 min. or more which has resulted in the house being totally destroyed by the fire and with the potential for loss of life.

In comparison I am also a career firefighter and have seen firsthand the ability to save the life's of the occupants, and containing the fire to the room of origin, by the fact that we are able to turn the fire truck out in 90 sec. or less and to be at the fire in 8 min or less.

Reform of the Fire Service is essential so that when I am at work I can have peace of mind that my family and friends have the protection from the modern fire service that they are entitled to and deserve, regardless of where they live or happen to be.

Please consider this- **MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS SAFETY ARE AS IMPORTANT TO ME AS YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE TO YOU.**

- Victoria's fire services boundaries have not changed significantly in 60 years. Under this out-dated system, 35 areas are wrongly zoned as 'country', despite being heavily urbanised and residential. Frankston, Cranbourne, Dandenong, Craigieburn, Melton, Springvale, Boronia and Geelong are just some of the 35 'country areas'.
- These areas need to be modernised as they are highly urbanised areas as part of the reform of the fire service. A rapid 8 minute response, with 7 professional career firefighters on two fire trucks is the minimum standard needed in highly urbanised areas to provide support and safety for firefighters and those we are trying to save .
- All Victorian, professional and volunteer firefighters, deserve a modern fire services that meet the needs of our growing communities.

To ensure the safety of all Victorians - including me as a firefighter, I ask you to please seriously consider your support for the proposed fire services reform. Reform of our fire services will ensure the safety of your constituents, and all communities in our growing state. Additionally, it will ensure the safety of our firefighters and stop the ever increasing and unrealistic demand being placed on volunteer firefighters because of the enormous urban growth resulting in increased emergency calls.

I also respectfully submit that you give consideration to my request to modernise the fire service along with the introduction of presumptive legislation laws to protect fire service employees. Both are needed to be endorsed and implemented by Parliament before the commencement of the fire season. This is important to me and my colleagues.

I would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you in person to talk to you further about my personal experiences as a professional firefighter and why this reform is so important.

Yours sincerely Garry,



Garry Green Qualified Firefighter

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Protecting lives and property



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