

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Mark Levins [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 3 July 2017 3:39 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Support for Fire Services Reform

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

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

My name is Mark Levins and I am a full time Qualified Fire-fighter in the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. I am currently stationed at Richmond Fire Station where I am a qualified Teleboom and Transporter operator. I have been stationed at Oakleigh, Vermont South, Ringwood, Hawthorn & Eastern Hill (East Melbourne.) In addition to this I am a member of the MFB Employee Support Program working as a 'peer.' In this role I provide ongoing support to colleagues regarding mental health and wellbeing, in essence acting as a conduit to professional services should a colleague require it.

I support reform to the Fire Services for the following reasons

- I live in Frankston South, which is currently classified as a 'country' area. My street would look like any other street in Melbourne - built up residential. In addition to living in this built up area, the houses on the opposite side of the street have all sold to developers who in their great foresight elected to put 6 or 7 townhouses on each of them. This means that my normal residential street has an incredibly high population density which deserves adequate fire protection. This means having crews on scene quickly and able to wear a Breathing Apparatus. This means a two truck (7 firefighter minimum) professional response on scene in 8 minutes.
- Frankston has a number of schools, Hospitals, nursing homes and large industrial areas to warrant an increase in full time coverage. This increasing urbanisation stretches to Langwarrin and down to Mornington. There are **more people living closer together.**
- The proposed reform will not affect volunteers
- Presumptive Legislation is an important step in further improving and protecting the long term health of both Professional and Volunteer Fire-fighters

Yours Sincerely

Mark Levins
[REDACTED]