

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** RUDD, Aaron [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 July 2017 8:52 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** Fire Service Reform Submission

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

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

My name is Aaron Rudd and I have been a professional Metropolitan Fire Brigade as a fire-fighter for 5 years. I am currently based at Eastern Hill fire station.

Before I became a professional fire-fighter I was also a Volunteer in the CFA for 3 years and come from a family that has over 100 years of combined service of over two generations in serving Victoria's emergency services. So this reform is something that is close to me and my families heart.

And so I would like to express my support for the proposed fire services reform.

- In my 5 years in the MFB and 3 years Previously as a Volunteer and the CFA and someone that lives in a CFA area I've seen first-hand how out-dated our fire services are and how ridiculous it is that with the incredible urban growth that is happening in Melbourne that some areas like where i live in plenty are still serviced by volunteers brigades even tho places like plenty and Doreen and diamond creek have doubled or tripled in size and population over the years.
- Victoria's Population in 1966 was 3.2 million and in 2016 its 6.1 million that means in 50 years our populations has doubled but our fire services boundaries haven't changed.
- Because Victoria's fire services boundaries have not changed significantly in 50 years, Under this out-dated system, 35 areas are wrongly zoned as 'country', despite being heavily urbanized and residential. Frankston, Cranbourne, Dandenong, Craigieburn, Melton, Springvale, Boronia and Geelong are just some of the 35 'country areas'.
- These areas need to be modernized as they are highly urbanised areas as part of the reform of the fire service. A rapid 8 minute response, with 7 professional career fire-fighters on two fire trucks is the minimum standard needed in highly urbanized areas. So in Greensborough i would get a minimum of a two truck turnout but where I live in plenty 10 minutes away I may get 1 truck if that.
- All Victorian, professional and volunteer fire-fighters, deserve modern fire services that meet the needs of our growing communities.

To ensure the safety of all Victorians - including me as a fire-fighter, 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 all Victorians, and all communities in our growing state. Additionally, it will ensure the safety of our fire-fighters and stop the ever increasing and unrealistic

demand being placed on volunteer fire-fighters because of the enormous urban growth resulting in increased emergency calls.

I also respectfully submit that you give consideration to my request to modernize the fire service along with the introduction of presumptive legislation laws to protect fire service employees and after losing an my uncle Bernie Henry who was a Station Officer in the MFB For 40 years to cancer that he most likely got from risking his life for the people of Victoria so presumptive legislation is closed to mine and my families heart and would mean a great deal if it was passed. 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 fire-fighter and why this reform is so important.

Kind regards

Aaron Rudd  
Qualified Fire Fighter  
Fire Station : 01  
C Platoon



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