

Kirra Vanzetti

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2017 2:23 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Fwd: INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

Categories: DOUBLE UP/AMENDMENT

Hi,
This Submission is being resent with the confidentiality removed.
Regards
Anthony Mills

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: LCSC@parliament.vic.gov.au
Sent: Tue, 04 Jul 2017 12:34:09 +1000
Subject: INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

For:

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

From;

Anthony Mills

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Disclaimer: *This submission is made by me as a concerned private citizen whose profession is fire-fighting. This submission is not being made in any capacity as a public official and any views expressed are personal and do not necessarily represent the views of my employer, being the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB).*

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

My name is Anthony Mills,

I am the Station Officer at Malvern on "C" Platoon. I have been in the MFB for 17 years, and an Officer for 8 years.

I have been stationed at Windsor, South Melbourne and Malvern.

I have also done 2 years at the HAZMAT department training Fire-fighters in response to hazardous materials incidents (Including CBR), also training Police and Ambulance personnel in Breathing Apparatus and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment.)

Qualifications

- Ladder platform(2004)
- HAZMAT technician(2007)
- Breathing apparatus service(2012)
- Certificate IV workplace trainer assessor(NMIT(2012))
- Certificate IV Fire technology(Swinburne(1996))
- Certificate II in Public Safety(fire fighting and emergency operations)MFB Recruit course 85(1999))
- Certificate III in Public Safety(fire fighting and emergency operations)(MFB LFF course)
- Certificate IV in Public Safety Fire-fighting supervision(MFB SO course 45(2009))
- Health and safety rep for Southern district C platoon(2017)

Before I joined the MFB I was a CFA volunteer at Hastings for 9 years and therefore have experience in both of the areas currently under review

I would like to voice my support for the proposed reform of the fire service for the following reasons;

- In the MFB we respond 2 appliances to all calls for a fire, this enables the 1st appliance to start work on arrival at any call, knowing that the 2nd appliance (our back up crew) is already responding with equally qualified staff. This ensures our fire-fighters are working under the safest possible circumstances, eg: by adhering to our BA procedures of 2 BA operators working the fire and 2 ready to rescue them if required. This is an important safe guard that enables me, as an officer in the fire service, to direct people to enter dangerous situations. For me, this is a guaranteed response; in areas outside of the MFB this level of response is not guaranteed.
- This reform addresses the 8 reviews into the fire service that have been conducted over the last 10 years including the Bushfires Royal Commission (2009), and Fire Service Review (2014). All of the reviews have indicated that the MFB/CFA boundary needs to be modernised, due to urban growth in our state and a failure to address the fire service boundary in a meaningful way for over 60 years.
- Every time we come to negotiate a new EBA the volunteers repeatedly state that “the union is grabbing more power” and have the opinion that we (the paid fire fighters) are out to take them over. This reform will make the CFA a fully volunteer service, which is something they have campaigned for.
- This reform defines a clear path via a “Fire District Review Panel” for a station to transition from Volunteer to a co-located station. This process involves identifying a gap, providing support to recruit or train volunteers to rectify the gap, and then if needed progress to a co-located station.

Thank you for taking the time to read my thoughts on this reform, I sincerely hope that the best result can be achieved.

Anthony Mills

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Email sent using Optus Webmail