

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 July 2017 3:30 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Mr Paul Ammala

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E: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Paul Ammala. I am a professional, operational leading firefighter for the MFB and I wish to make a submission to support the firefighter reforms currently proposed for Victoria.

Having worked on the border of MFB and CFA turn-out area, I have had the opportunity to work with both professional and volunteer CFA members. In those instances where we are required to enter burning buildings, I would like to know that while I was prepared to risk my safety in going into such situations for others, my safety was also a priority by having two other firefighters in breathing apparatus on standby in case something should go wrong. I believe that the current proposed legislation addresses this issue by having 7 professional firefighters on the fireground.

I also believe that the areas of Melbourne that may have once been on the "urban fringe", are now highly urbanised residential areas and as such should be supported by infrastructure that includes an urbanised professional fire service. The area around Glen Waverley has many aged and disabled care hospices and medium to high density residential areas are rapidly developing. Failure to adequately respond (with respect to number of emergency vehicles and time to arrive) to calls in these types of premises have the potential to be serious. I believe that the proposed legislation will address this by re-defining the urban fringe boundaries with respect to fire-fighter response.

I also support the presumptive legislation for firefighters who are diagnosed with cancer, which is also part of the fire-fighter reforms being considered, as I strongly believe that the decomposition gases and fumes as by-products of items destroyed by fire, pose a significant risk to fire-fighters developing cancers despite all due care and consideration.

Yours Sincerely

Leading FireFighter Paul Ammala

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File1:

File2:

File3: