

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 July 2017 6:59 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

Nicholas Beagley

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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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I am currently a Station Officer with the MFB working out of the Bundoora Fire Station. I have been employed with the MFB for 32 years and held my current rank for 27 years. In that time I have worked in fringe areas such Templestowe, Somerton, Epping, Greensborough and now Bundoora. These area's have developed over the years from open land to now built up residential area's. My relationship with CFA volunteers has always been good and I hold them in high regard as they are integral to the protection of Victoria. Unfortunately there is short comings with some response times and availability being inadequate. I have turned out at the request of the CFA because they have been unable to man specific trucks i.e Rescue units. I believe the current model is inadequate due to urban growth in Melbourne and needs to be reformed. Unfortunately because the fire services being politicized I believe industrially the current model is unworkable. The separation of paid and volunteer firefighters will solve this issue and should but and end to long drawn out EBA negotiations which has tarnished the image of career firefighters in Victoria. I was once a trusted and loyal servant to Victorians but now am labelled as a union thug. I have just returned from the US where Firefighters are held in high regard as we once were. I am hoping reforms can can rectify this. Having said that, people who we respond to certainly appreciate our service and always comment on how fast we are. Our job is time critical particularly with the introduction of Emergency Medical Response. Although this has been a trying 6 years for career firefighters in Victoria, we have turned up for every shift and turned out professionally when required and done our job above and beyond including the covering of built up area's that are inadequately covered by volunteers, not criticizing them but working with them to cover short falls. I believe it is time for a restructure to benefit all Victorians.

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File1:

File2:

File3: