

Kirra Vanzetti

From: David Nightingale [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 July 2017 11:01 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

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

I am Qualified Fire Fighter David Nightingale

I work for CFA in district 14, I live in Coburg and work at Craigieburn fire brigade.

I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons:

Victoria has been working under a system that struggles to keep up with the demands of modern Victoria. Things have changed dramatically since 1958, the growth and spread of communities and suburbs, the hazards and risks of our innovative industries and the booming population that is ever growing in Victoria.

As Victoria changes all the essential services have to change with it. Matching the growth with the service delivery Victorians expect and deserve. The constraints of the MFB and CFA acts as they stand, that have worked well in the past, and were appropriate when written, are now failing to keep up and match the ever changing face of Victoria.

In my opinion, the successful protection of Victoria is not based on sticking to what has always been done, but based on an organisations ability to adapt. This is not a bad thing, this is evolution.

If we look at the work that has been done on documents such as the OH&S act of 2004 since its first adaption as a modern occupational health and safety legislation in 1985 the document has changed and shifted to cover short falls and evolved over the years to provide the best regulations and guide lines to protect Victorians. In this time, neither the CFA nor MFB acts changed in any serious manor, taking into consideration the readily available information and projections about Victoria and the direction its going, its growth, new industries, new hazards and threats.

Simply, these acts, like everything else that governs us should be open to change. Removing the emotion, the pride and the ego from public discussions about the rolls of these organisations it's very easy to see what the best action is, as it is solely based on the delivery of a service to the community. Our role is simple, to protect lives and property of the people of Victoria, and the governance that we work under should facilitate this in the best possible way, not hinder it. It is not exempt from change, it is not more important to maintain its originality over the protection of the community or because of its historical standing that people cling too so dearly.

What I ask is that the 59 years of red tape and amendments that is not conducive to evolution and adaption is rewritten, streamlined and simplified to clear the way for us to do our job, protecting all Victorians.

Yours sincerely,
David Nightingale

David Nightingale Qualified Firefighter

Craigieburn Fire Station 2 Belsay Place Craigieburn Vic 3064

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2017

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