

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 5 July 2017 1:16 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 Scott Burns
[REDACTED]

Leading Fire Fighter, A shift, Melton Fire Brigade
Country Fire Authority
[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

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

I am Scott Burns, a Leading fire fighter working on A shift at the integrated CFA Melton Fire brigade. I have been employed with the CFA for the past 6 years and have worked at integrated stations side by side with volunteers all that time. I am heavy rescue qualified (road accident rescue) and was previously an advance care paramedic in Qld. I was also in the armed forces from 1988 until 1992 and served as a combat medic in Nth Iraq during the first gulf war and have been awarded the Australian service medal (clasp Iraq) and the National service Medal.

I live in Ballarat and work in Melton which is a 45min commute each way.

I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons: As a firefighter, it is important to have guaranteed backup - guaranteed that two trucks with at least 7 firefighters will be dispatched within 8 minutes. Not just for my safety and the safety of other firefighters but for the safety of the community as a whole.

In my professional opinion there will be no effect to volunteer firefighter, coming from an integrated station model, from my reading of the reform the volunteers will be getting more support, not only in regards to training but with resources as well.

With the current residential developments going on in Melton's and Ballarat's area it is imperative that we have a modern and efficient, guaranteed fire response within 90 seconds. With a minimum of 7 qualified and experienced firefighters.

In the past 3 years as this dispute between the career and volunteer associations has been fought it has had a profound effect on me and my family, I am not comfortable wearing my uniform in public whilst not working, mainly due to the amount of negative media that has portrayed the career firefighters as thugs and bullies. I have also seen many of my work colleagues negatively affected by this ongoing dispute.

In closing I would like to reinforce my strong support of the fire service review and presumptive rights legislation bill that is currently before the upper house.

Your sincerely

Scott Burns

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File1:

File2:

File3: