

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** n/a [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 July 2017 9:51 AM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Subject:** Firefighters Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation.

Andrew Iliff  
[REDACTED]

To The Assistant Clerk  
Department of the Legislative Council  
Fire Service Bill Committee

My name is Andrew Iliff, I am a Leading Firefighter with the MFB, where I have worked for 31 years. I am currently at # 48 station Taylors Lakes.

However I am writing to you as a privet citizen and the views expressed in this letter are my own and do not represent the MFB.

I believe the Select Committee should endorse the proposed Firefighters Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation.

I would like to express my support for the proposed Fire Services Reform by responding to your Terms of Reference.

a. Impact on Fire Service delivery across Victoria.

Fire Service delivery should not be seen to be only Firefighting butt be inclusive of the following.

Emergency Medical Response.  
Fire Education (Prep/Y1 and Y6)  
Multicultural Fire awareness.  
Workplace and Warden training.  
Community engagement programs.  
Dangerous Goods inspections.  
Road Rescue.  
Fire Investigation of suspicious events.  
Urban Search and Rescue.  
High Angle Rescue.  
Community resilience programs, and  
Building essential safety measures compliance inspections (important given the recent London fire)

I believe from experience that pooling Victoria's Fire Service resources and removing boundaries can only improve enhance Fire Service delivery.

b. Effect on volunteer engagement and participation in Fire Service delivery.

It is hard to understand this argument. The CFA remains volunteer's remain. With a large increase in funding and improved training facilities.

c. Short term and long term cost on fire service provision.

How do you measure the cost of a life? What is the cost a home? What is the cost of environmental damage? Both immediately and ongoing.

d. Underlying policy rationale.

Over a number of years there have been numerous enquiries and independent reports recommending Fire Service reform.

Lightweight composite and noncompliant construction materials are being used in homes and commercial buildings across Victoria. That are then filled modern furniture and fittings made of synthetic materials, resulting in fires that burn quicker than ever.

Doesn't it make sense to use data, such as population growth, urban, industrial and commercial growth to determine requirements for boundaries between fulltime fire service and volunteer fire service, and to review the boundaries regularly.

We have had one Ambulance service in Victoria for a number of years, isn't it time for the fire service to do the same.

Much scientific literature and legal opinion from all around the world supports the fact that firefighters are exposed to toxic and hazardous and mentally stressful environments. Isn't it time that firefighters were protected by presumptive rights legislation?

I respectfully request your consideration to implement the Firefighters Presumptive Rights and Fire Service Legislation Amendment (reform) Bill

Yours sincerely  
 Andrew Iliff  
 Leading firefighter