

**Kirra Vanzetti**

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**From:** peter watts [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 6 July 2017 11:53 AM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** fire service reform

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

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

I am Station Officer Peter Watts employed by the MMFBB. I have been employed for the past 30 years and I also serve as a on Shift Fitness Leader and a Peer Support Member.

I live in Ascot Vale and work at Keilor Fire station.

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

It is vital that as OIC of a responding Appliance I have a guaranteed 2 trucks and 7 firefighters on route within 8 minutes to ensure the safety of my crews ,and to be able to carry out firefighter operations quickly, effectively and safely.

This ensures that people living in urban growth areas get the response they deserve and need for better service and protection.

This in no way will affect the volunteer turnout or the important role they play or surge capacity in fact it will only improve fire cover for the public.

The reform will only affect around 35 integrated stations, no other volunteer brigades or bushfire response will be affected.

The growth in density has not been addressed in these 35 urban areas for far to long and is outdated causing an unacceptable firecover for the residents of these areas.

This dispute has gone on far to long and I have seen first hand through my role as a peer support officer the ongoing affect this has had on morale.

This long overdue reform provides the opportunity for improved professional and volunteer services which can only be better and positive for the betterment of this state.

Yours Sincerely

Peter Watts  
[REDACTED]