

6<sup>th</sup> July 2017.

Assistant Clerk Committees  
Department of Legislative Council  
Fire Services Bill Select Committee  
Parliament House, Spring Street  
East Melbourne Vic. 3002.

It is great the Victorian government has put forward the need for a Firefighters Presumptive Rights Compensation Bill.

I do not support the part of the bill where it discriminates against volunteer firefighters in favour of the paid firefighters in regards to differing proofing methods for a compensation claim.

I strongly oppose the splitting of the CFA and the formation of a separate firefighting and rescue organisation under the proposed name of FRV.

The promotion by government and CFA Board and HQ to split the CFA to a paid firefighting force called the FRV and a volunteer firefighting force called CFA is not true as a benefit to volunteer brigades and communities.

All CFA paid staff in the regional and district offices would be FRV personnel as well as the paid station staff.

The volunteer brigades would still be administered by the same staff, some who were station staff coming from a fully paid industry regime.

1. CFA would need to start with a clean slate regards the paid personnel who are at the regional and district offices.

2. Regional and District senior managers would need to have a strong CFA volunteer background.

3. It would need a selection committee panel of predominately senior CFA volunteers to interview the recipient's to a senior managers placing in the districts and regions.

4. The two way multi-agency relationship CFA currently have with DELWP would need to continue. It would be inappropriate to replace CFA with FRV regards this multi-agency operation.

I cannot see the Victorian government and the UFU accepting items 1,2,3,and 4,these are my main reason to oppose the splitting of the CFA.

The role of the District staff as recently confirmed by CFA Chief Officer is to manage the support to the brigades.

There are some present CFA operational personnel see their role is to manage and direct the brigades and volunteers.

Creating the new FRV should not be driven by the sole purpose of bypassing Federal government who could oppose the CFA EBA as presented by the UFU, there are too many operational negatives to consider splitting the CFA.

I am very concerned if this split occurs it will affect our state firefighting force to the extent CFA as an all of state coordinated emergency force will diminish and rural brigades will concentrate on only looking after their own community in the operational manner that suits them.

My background 57 years as a CFA rural volunteer, having held Captain, Deputy Group Officer, represented brigade, group and volunteers on various forums.

I am not seeking confidentiality to my thoughts they maybe posted on your website.

Maurie Killeen CFA rural volunteer.

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