

Kirra Vanzetti

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2017 7:56 PM
To: LCSC; consultation@dpc.vic.gov.au
Subject: Inquiry into the firefighters presumptive rights compensation and fire services legislation amendment (reform) bill 2017

To the Fire Service Reform Committee,

My name is [REDACTED] and I'm a level two firefighter with the MFB.

Whilst I have only been a firefighter for a short time it is a career I have worked towards for several years and have sacrificed a lot in order to achieve it. Coming from a 15 year background of voluntary community service with Surf Life Saving Victoria I have had a desire to service the community and be part of an organisation that protects and assists our diverse communities for a long time.

A firefighter can be exposed to more human tragedy than any member of the public may ever witness but if a person is willing to sacrifice so much to help a complete stranger I find my self asking the question why do we have to struggle so much to move forward as an organisation? Why do the men and women who have been on the front line for decades have to be tarnished in the media spot light? But most of all way is there such a big misunderstanding about what career firefighters are fighting for?

Everyone pays the same fire service levy therefore shouldn't everyone be provided with the same level of service and protection? The answer for me is simple, as a father and family oriented person if any of my family members were in need of assistance whether that be a car accident, house fire, emergency medical response, etc I would want people like myself doing all they can to improve the situation. But unfortunately most of my family is not offered with the same protection as other families located in metro Melbourne. So why is this?

Everyone will benefit from the fire services reform by providing communities with greater protection including self awareness and education but also being able to respond within the critical timeframes and by creating a unified service for all professional firefighters and a greater workforce to accommodate Victoria's highest risk and growth areas.

The above is why I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services.

Please note that I wish to keep my name and identity confidential but have my actual submission still considered by the Committee.

Yours sincerely,
[REDACTED]