



Established 1985
Advocate - Innovate - Educate
AI No A0098814Z
ABN 81 532 838 061

6th July 2017

Upper House Select Committee Review

Fire Service Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017'

Dear Sir/Madam,

Introduction :

- Established in 1985 as result of a growing concern of a need for road rescue capability and has enabled CFA Rescue to evolve to world best techniques.
- Second largest CFA based Volunteer Association.
- Established to coordinate;
 1. Training in New car technology and Heavy vehicle rescue.
 2. Uniform equipment and rescue vehicle design.
 3. Monitor new car and truck design.
 4. Information network on all types of Rescue to CFA Rescue brigades/units including Echuca – Moama Search & Rescue (EMSR).
- Facilitate and advise CFA on;
 1. Rescue techniques.
 2. Improved trauma training.
 3. Personal Jewellery (ring) removal and cutting.
 4. Industrial/Machinery rescue.
 5. PPC.
 6. State wide rescue response.
- Co-ordinate Training;
 1. Heavy Rescue (Truck, Bus, Train) Training annually for Rescue Brigades/Units.
 2. NCT and ANCAPP Update and Practical Training annually at Holden Proving Ground, Lang Lang.
(SES and MFB Rescue Trainers invited and attend.)
 3. "Careflight" Trauma Training annually.
 4. Local Training Days with Rescue Brigades/Units around the State.
- Ongoing Review of new equipment.
- Establish and upgrade CFA State spare rescue vehicles.
- Provide and transport training equipment around the state.
- Develop State Training Instructors program who facilitate training around the state.
- Develop a Medical Group and define and lead the way in rescue training to improve "Level Two First Aid" to "Trauma" training annually.
- Continual volunteerism that attributes to provide rescue state wide.

ROAD ACCIDENT - TRENCH - CONFINED SPACE - HIGH ANGLE - SWIFT WATER - MARINE
INDUSTRIAL - QUARRY & MINE - LOW ANGLE ACCESS - STEEP TERRAIN - DOMESTIC - USAR



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- Association operation and all aspects conducted with very limited funding.
- Association willing to discuss any items as listed.

The CFA Rescue Association Executive and its members has grave concerns on the proposed Changes to the Fire Services without adequate consultation and research. Items affecting volunteer and staff rescue operators, brigades/squads throughout the state.

1.0 Training - Pumper/Rescue (CFA New).

Training Qualification time frame - Minimum number of hours required before becoming competent to undertake the work.
i.e. risk to patient of further injuries.

1.1 Skills Maintenance.

1.2 Funding to implement these new procedures.

1.3 Funding must be also included for Volunteer Brigades issued with Heavy Pumpers to convert to new CFA Pumper /Rescue Typology.

1.4 CFA is unable to fund existing Rescue Training sufficiently now ?

2.0 Rescue control review -

Rescue Control agencies and support agencies is under review.
(Road Rescue Arrangements Victoria).

3.0 Pumper -Rescues (CFA New)

3.1 Costing to retrofit existing Hydraulic rescue equipment on Pumpers.

3.2 Costing to retrofit both Volunteer and Staff existing Heavy Pumpers Locker configuration.

3.3 Heavy Pumper offline when retrofitted to Pumper/Rescue

3.4 Existing equipment on these vehicles has the capacity to gain access for the Paramedic to access the patient at their request and is subject to CFA existing protocols and arrival of the Designated Rescue Truck and Crews for that response area.

4.0 Rescue Trucks -

4.1 CFA is unable to fund existing Rescue Truck replacement sufficiently now ?

4.2 Current State Spare Rescues are very basic and embarrassing.

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- 4.3 There are several rescue trucks that require replacement now due to age, deterioration, workload and travel distances.
- 4.4 Chassis costs i.e. Scania Double Cab Verses Hino Double Cab.
- 4.5 CFA must have one standard chassis for standisation, and cascading through the state, subject to special response areas i.e. Mt Beauty (4wd).

- 5.0 Control and command procedures-
- 5.1 Control and command procedures between the Pumper/Rescue crew and Rescue Truck crew on scene.
- 5.2 This will impact on CFA RA members including Echuca – Moama Search & Rescue Crews (x 25), SES Rescue Crews (x 120) and Shepparton Search & Rescue Crew.
- 5.3 Existing volunteer rescue crews have extensive skills and experience to undertake difficult and arduous rescues involving major patient trauma and are able to undertake patient trauma response before and after paramedics are on scene. (Note- 3 x Integrated Brigades undertake rescue)
- 5.4 Trauma care has been enhanced by CFA RA with the introduction of “Careflight” training sessions, medical training manikins and medical trainers.

- 6.0 Training, equipment, role, deployment -
- 6.1 Training, equipment, role, deployment role must be undertaken with consultation with the Association.
- 6.2 Volunteer Rescue operator roles within CFA will be eroded over time. Volunteer training for a rescue operator is minimum of six months before accreditation.
- 6.3 Valuable rescue skills will be lost.
- 6.4 CFA RA, undertakes training, skills maintenance at training grounds and onsite with rescue brigades and squad’s.

- 7.0 Volunteer Rescue Operator Trainers -
- 7.1 Volunteer Rescue Operator Trainers are highly skilled and are able to train and work with Paid staff and Volunteers.
- 7.2 Many Volunteer Rescue Trainers have years (20 years plus) of hands on experience.

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8.0 Costs to the State of Victoria -

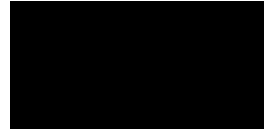
8.1 Costs to the State of Victoria implementing procedures without through investigation and consultation with all experienced rescue parties.

8.2 Funding for Training - Volunteers and Staff, Equipment, Vehicles, requires investigation and support.

Yours Respectfully

Michael Cawthan

State Secretary



Ex Lieutenant K.J. Chisholm

State President



Affiliated Members:

- Apollo Bay FB
- Ballan FB
- Ballarat FB
- Bendigo FB
- Casterton FB
- Cohuna FB
- Dandenong FB
- Daylesford FB
- Dromana FB
- Echuca-Moama S&R
- Epping FB
- Fish Creek & District FB
- Geelong City FB
- GMH Proving Ground
- Lakes Entrance FB
- Langwarrin FB
- Loch FB
- Loch FB
- Manangatang FB
- Melton FB
- Mirboo North FB
- Mildura FB
- Monbulk FB
- Mount Beauty FB
- Nar Nar Goon FB
- Oscar 1 Mine Rescue Team
- Plenty FB
- Safety Beach CGB
- Wandin FB
- Werribee FB
- Yea FB



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