

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2017 8:59 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

Mr Denis Brown
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Future funding for CFA

I am 68 years old and first joined the CFA when I was 16 years old. I have been an active member of the Yackandandah CFA, as a Lieutenant and Chairman since 1985. The following is my main concern about the restructure.

The funding for the CFA at present comes from the fire services levy, which is levied on all properties serviced by the CFA. At present, there is a cross subsidy from the outer metropolitan area and regional cities to country Victoria, as there is, for example, with telephone services.

Under the new proposal, FRV will service these outer metropolitan areas and regional cities, and no doubt secure the fire services levy from these areas. Funding for the CFA will then be on a per capita basis from the areas that the CFA services, resulting in a decrease in funds per CFA member.

In the present and near future term, the Government will fund the CFA due to political pressures, but due to the increased cost of fire services in Victoria due to the creation of FRV, in the longer term I believe that the funding per capita will likely decrease.

The Government needs to be locked into the present per capita funding arrangements for the CFA, with a formula put in place for funding increases as the number of volunteers in the CFA decreases in the future. Without this I believe that CFA will not be able to keep delivering the high standards of fire protection to the rural communities that we now achieve.

Denis Brown, Yackandandah Fire Brigade 3.7.2017

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File1:

File2:

File3:

