



## ROBERT MOON



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Recipient  
Upper House Senate Select committee

As a volunteer for in excess of 30 years I wish to comment on the proposed alterations to the CFA and MFB and the formation of FRV.

Being in district 20 in the North West of the state and being almost wholly volunteer impacts maybe minimal but the unknown and lack of detail is very concerning. The insinuation that Victoria needs a professional fire service is extremely insulting to all volunteer members as we all approach every incident as an efficient and professional service as volunteer and career working as one. This insinuation that we provide any less is leading to low morale and why will we bother attitude from many members if this is not addressed brigade numbers will be greatly reduced and thus severely effecting the surge capacity and state's safety in times of small incidents but more so in times of large campaign type fires . My concerns are also how our access to training and support officers will be effected. Currently meetings and training is often carried out at night or on weekends and a lot of flexibility will the new workplace relations allow this to continue or will EBA practices restrict this.

As volunteers we build a working relationship with the operation officers with them being brought back from FRV how will this operate is it a time appointment an ongoing one is there opportunity for CFA to advertise and interview to get the best or will they be appointed from FRV.

General challenges for the state of Victoria will be what is the ongoing cost to all Victorians and how will it be an improved service. How will this affect funding for volunteer CFA.

How will turnout to incidents in cross area borders be managed For example in Bendigo with FRV having a response area for centre of Bendigo how will the confusion of attending an incident outside or on the boundary be dealt with will there be a confusion of who is responded supported dealing with two control centres.

How will fire service levy be collected and administered and at what cost to both rate payers and the collecting agencies can their systems handle this.

35 integrated brigades become FRV what is the role and why would you have volunteer CFA brigade based and equipped out of same station given they have no response area and will need separate equipment

Whilst there may need some changes in an evolving new risk profile in some areas to totally dismantle a world renown fire service just for political means and create an EBA doesn't seem logical to many and will place the safety of many Victorians at risk.

The combination of the presumptive rights legislation and the CFA MFB realignment seems to be flawed governance as both are mutually exclusive issues and why would you combine two such important issues to the state of Victoria as they need to be dealt with separately.

Sincerely,

**Robert Moon**  
CFA Volunteer member