

From: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017
To: [LCSC](#)
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017
Date: Friday, 7 July 2017 3:31:27 PM

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

Mrs Rebecca Plier
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBMISSION CONTENT:

--

My name is Rebecca Plier, I was a volunteer firefighter in the early 2000's and I am married to a current MFB firefighter of 15 years. I address the select committee to express my support for the proposed fire services reform.

I along with my husband and two children live in the highly urbanised suburb of Seaford near Frankston. Due to the fact that Victoria's fire service boundaries have not changed significantly in 60 years, we are classified as being in the 'country' area of Victoria. However we are obviously a part of greater metropolitan Melbourne and as such my family should receive the same fire service, response and protection. I support the creation of Fire Rescue Victoria and an expansion of metropolitan/urban fire service boundaries. Reform of our fire services will ensure the safety all communities in our growing state.

When my husband goes to work protecting Victorians, I want to know that he and his colleagues are protected too. I want to know that the required number of fire appliances will promptly respond to the incident. I want to know that enough firefighters will be present to back each other up and look after the safety of everyone there. I want to know that all firefighters on scene have the required skills and training to enter a building and conduct a life saving rescue if required. This will be provided for by modernising our fire services and the creation of Fire Rescue Victoria.

I understand and support that CFA volunteers will continue to play an important role in the protection of country areas of Victoria. Not only in protecting local communities, but by responding to large bushfires right across the state when required. I am grateful for the service volunteer firefighters provide, however this reform will stop the ever increasing and unrealistic demands being placed upon them due to enormous urban growth and increased emergency calls.

I would also like to highlight the importance to me of the passing of presumptive legislation laws to protect fire service employees. It is of concern to me the risks my

husband faces and toxins he is exposed to in his daily work. Whilst I know that these risks are mitigated as much as possible, cancers amongst firefighters do and will still occur. In the event of our family being affected by a fire related cancer it would at least be helpful to know that we would be supported during this time, not only by the close knit fire service community but also by presumptive legislation laws.

Thank you for reading my submission, all Victorians, including Victoria's professional and volunteer firefighters, deserve modern fire services that meet the needs of our growing communities. To ensure the safety of all Victorians - including my husband as a firefighter, I ask you to please support the proposed fire services reform and presumptive legislation bill.

Rebecca Plier
Victorian resident and wife of career firefighter

--

File1: [595f1c7563a5c-R Plier - Fire Services Bill Select Committee Submission.docx](#)

File2:

File3: