

Prue Purdey

From: HILLBRICK, Sam [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2017 2:53 PM
To: 'consultation@dpc.vic.gov.au'; LCSC; [REDACTED]
Subject: Fire Services Reform

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

INQUIRY INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS' PRESUMPTIVE RIGHTS COMPENSTATION AND FIRE SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REFORM) BILL 2017

My name is Sam Hillbrick and I have been an employee of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade for 4 years. I currently hold the rank of Qualified Fire Fighter and am based at Bundoora Fire Station. I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform to the fire services for the following reasons.

*It is important to me as a Fire fighter to have a guaranteed back up of at least 7 Fire fighters on the fire ground responding within 8 minutes. This is not only for my safety and efficient fire fighting capabilities, but for the safety and protection of the community.

*Employing all career fire fighters in one service will not affect volunteer turnout or surge capacity. Volunteers will continue to do what they have always done, unaffected by the reform.

*Boundaries for urban(MFB) and rural (CFA) areas have not changed in many years. Due to urban growth around the 35 integrated station's primary response areas, dense residential suburbs with higher populations and greater risks should receive full time support.

*The dispute over this has caused considerable strain to not only myself and my work colleagues, but to my family and friends, due to the uncertainty of our careers.

Although I am a relatively new member of the MFB in comparison to some. My experience in working close to the current borders, responding with both full time and volunteer CFA, is that the proposed changes are only a benefit to the community we serve. I joined this job to protect Melbourne and the communities within it to the best of my ability, I hope we can continue to do that.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Hillbrick

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