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**Subject:** Submission to Fire Services Bill Select Committee  
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Attention the Fire Services Bill Select Committee.

Dear Committee Members

The Mount Taylor Fire Brigade would like to put a submission to the inquiry into the Fire Services Restructure proposal, as we are greatly concerned about the secrecy, rush, lack of consultation and hidden agenda behind such an enormous change to the existing C.F.A structure. A structure which is recognised around the world as an excellent volunteer based organisation supported by paid staff.

The C.F.A. Act, as we know it today, was formed and created after an extensive Royal Commission, Public Hearings and involvement right across the whole of the emergency services.

But this new proposal has been created in secret, with no proper detail on how it is going to work or proof that it will improve the way CFA operates so successfully today.

All of the 8 previous fire service reviews have not recommended the Government's proposed new structure. In fact the Andrews Government's own recent review clearly says that the CFA's surge capacity of volunteers and the present integrated model needs to be preserved and strengthened, so why do we need change.

Allowing the Government to sign off on the U.F.U's EBA is wrong, as it goes against the volunteer charter and that is why the Federal Government had the laws changed as it will affect the way volunteers operate.

We are concerned why the cancer compensation is attached to this Bill as it is a completely separate issue. Also why is it that the volunteer's cancer compensation has different

eligibility requirements to paid operational staff.

On behalf of the officers and members of the Mt Taylor Rural Fire Brigade,

yours sincerely

Heather Stuart

Brigade Secretary.