

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees,

I am currently a firefighter for the Country Fire Authority. I am writing this short submission to express my support for the proposed Firefighters Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017.

I have been a fire fighter since December 2016 and although I have only been a firefighter for a short period of time I have been aware of the fire services model for much longer and over the past year have seen how it works first hand.

I believe that Victoria needs a reformed fire service, one that is designed for 2017 and into the future. To me it is unbelievable that we are still using a model from decades ago given the growth this state continues to have year in year out.

I work with volunteer firefighters almost every shift and fully understand that they play a very important part in our rural firefighting capacity but the proposed reforms have no impact on the volunteer service (in fact they include features to assist with recruitment, retention and funding) all to do with better protecting Victoria.

Finally, I've been assured that I make this submission under the protection of parliamentary privilege and request that my views remain the confidential property of this committee. I do not wish to denigrate or cast aspersions on anyone associated with the Victorian fire services and firmly believe that this moment presents us all with an opportunity to create a far more capable and robust fire service that will benefit the people and state of Victoria.

I am more than willing to be contacted for any clarification or queries relating to this submission.

Kind Regards,

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