



Chris Binaisse [REDACTED]

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To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Chris Binaisse - Submission for
Firefighters' Presumptive Rights
Compensation and Fire Services
Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill
2017

To the Fire Services Reform Select Committee,

Please find attached my submission for consideration in relation to **Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017**.

Regards,

Chris Binaisse Qualified Firefighter (A Platoon)

Frankston Fire Station, 3 Cranbourne Rd Frankston 3199

[REDACTED]
Protecting lives and property

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Chris Binaisse Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017 Submission

Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017

To the Parliamentary Committee,

As a career firefighter of 14 years, and a former volunteer firefighter for approximately 5 years prior to making a career change to become a Professional (career) Firefighter, I **fully support** the current Governments proposal of the *Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017* and believe this bill should be passed in the affirmative.

I currently hold a substantive firefighter position at Frankston Fire Station on "A" Platoon, and have served the communities of Frankston and surrounding suburbs of Carrum Downs, Skye, Mt Eliza, Langwarrin and Baxter (but not limited to) for 11 years out of my 14 year career, since transferring to Frankston in 2006 in a fully operation Firefighter Role.

I see the **Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017** as a very important piece of legislation that will modernise Victoria's fire service's, which will enhance community safety and expected population growth within Victoria now and into the future. A recent published review into population growth **Victoria in Future 2016** has predicted Victoria's population will reach 10.1 million by 2051 (currently according to ABS 6.244 million December 2016). That in simple terms means Victoria is facing a 50% population increase in the next 24 years comparable to today, with the bulk of that growth to be seen in the Outer Metropolitan Areas. The current system that our fire services work under sits in Acts and Regulations that was designed in 1958. It has served our organisation well up unto this point, but is in desperate need of modernising to see us well into the future.

Under this current industrial climate of disputation as well, which has been going on for far too long might I add, the proposed Bill will give back CFA to operate under a fully volunteer model with no union influence what so ever. This is what I believe the CFA volunteers so desperately wanted, which was evident in the lead up to the Federal 2016 election. There are still "Hands off CFA" banners around various fully volunteers station

Under the current proposal, I do not see any evidence that there will be any negative impact to the very important role Victoria's volunteer firefighters provide to the Victorian Community now, or into the future.

CFA Chief Officer Steve Warrington along with Victoria's Emergency Management Commissioner Craig Lapsley are stating they both support **Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017**. For me as a Professional Firefighter (Career) I respect, take direction and guidance from them as they are the head of our organisation and emergency management of Victoria. Their professional opinions should be listened to and considered, and I am.

In closing, I do support support **Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) Bill 2017**, I would encourage that you also support this Bill

Chris Binaisse
Professional Firefighter (Career)
Frankston Fire Station
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