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07/07/2017 04:52 PM

To Consultation/DTF@DTF  
cc  
bcc  
Subject FW: Submission into the Fire Services Reform

1 attachment



fire services review.docx

Good afternoon,

Please see attached my submission for the Fire Services Review . I request that my name and identity be keep confidential and the my submission passed onto the committee .

Regards

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Dear Assistant Clerk Committees

**Re: Inquiry into the Firefighters' Presumptive Rights Compensation and Fire Services Legislation Amendment (Reform) bill 2017**

I am [REDACTED]

- Senior Station Officer
- MFB (currently seconded to the CFA)
- 19 years as a career firefighter and 10 years previous as a volunteer (volunteer length of service 30.25 years)
- Advance Certificate in Fire technology, EMR qualified, 3 promotional courses.
- MFB Chief Officers Commendation and an Ambulance Victoria CEO Commendation. Black Saturday medal and a Long service medal

I live at Gembrook and currently work at Morwell

I was a volunteer Firefighter with the Menzies Creek Fire brigade for 25 years and a junior member of the Dandenong Fire Brigade. I am also a junior club president of the Gembrook Cockatoo Football netball club and have been an active volunteer for 10 years. I have also served as a school council member at my local Primary School.

I am writing this submission in support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons:

- This would allow for the same training, equipment, procedures for all career firefighters across the state.
- Gives the community a guaranteed 7 trained (to one standard) Firefighters , 2 trucks to all calls covered by FRV
- You would have a guaranteed response in our larger country towns covered by FRV
- The volunteers would have more say over how the CFA as an organisation is managed.
- Surge capacity will not be affected and in fact increase due to the opening of the 35 new volunteer stations with more resources or through the co-location of CFA and FRV
- The Operations Officer and Operations Managers will continue their rolls and still provide support to the Volunteers
- The independent committee would allow for a review and recommendation into larger populated towns and the right type of fire coverage is required for that area. (Moving with the Times).
- Allow CFA to concentrating on core response and giving the technical rescue, hazmat, Aerial vehicles to FRV to maintain and provide support into rural areas.

The Presumptive Rights bill is well overdue. This bill affords protection to my family if I was to fall ill due to my work. I have never smoked; I have been fighting fires for over 30 years and trained at Fiskville on numerous occasions during the late 80's and 90's. I have fought house, car fires without Breathing Apparatus as we did not have this equipment in those days. This Legislation cannot come faster enough to protect me and my fellow Firefighters. (Career and volunteer)

**Conclusion:**

As a firefighter I am getting sick and tired of being used as a political football. I am completely over the constant attacks on me whether by social media, mainstream media or the Liberal party. I want to go to work and do my job to the best of my ability. I have deal with physical and mental scares of my job and have a very good understanding on the organisations. The is reform is well overdue and needs to happen

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]