

To Consultation/DTF@DTF cc

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Subject RE: Submission

1 attachment



Dear Assistant Clerk Committees.docx

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

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I am Leading Firefighter Duy Ton, I have been in the service for 5 years. I live in Sunshine North and work at Footscray Fire Station.

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

I believe it is important to have guaranteed backup which means that two trucks with at least 7 firefighters will be dispatched within 8 minutes. This means there will be better protection and safety for the community and also for firefighters.

Due to the increase in population to areas that were previously 'country' are now highly urbanised with high residential and other risks. The reform will allow these areas to be fully protected by firefighters allowing a guaranteed response to all calls.

The reform will also assist in the standardisation of all career training, equipment and response standard. This will further improve the fire service allowing for the community to be better protected.

Benefits to volunteers will also be realised with the reform as it has included a package to assist with volunteer recruitment and retention across the CFA; and includes funding for volunteer station upgrades etc.

The dispute has put a strain on the relationship between career and volunteer firefighters, it has also affected our families with the mistruths published in the media. At the end of the day firefighters whether professionals or volunteers are doing this to keep the community safe, the reform will give firefighters an opportunity to mend the relationships as we work forward together to achieve the same goal which is to keep everyone safe.

