



Luke Cullinan [REDACTED]
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To Consultation/DTF@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Fire services reform

Please find letter attached

Cheers



Luke Cullinan Firefighter
Geelong City Fire Brigade – 69 McKillop Street, Vic 3220
[REDACTED]

Protecting lives and property



CONNECT

cfa.vic.gov.au

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Fire services reform.docx

Dear Committee

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

My name is Luke Cullinan and I am currently employed by the CFA in the role of Leading Fire Fighter at the Geelong City Fire Station. I specialise in road accident and industrial rescue, aerial appliances and have recently qualified as a High Angle Rescue Technician.

I live in Torquay, where I was a volunteer fire fighter previous to my employment with the CFA. I grew up in rural Victoria where my father was a CFA volunteer at our local Bungaree Brigade. As a result I have a diverse background within the CFA

I am writing to you in support of the proposed reform of Victoria's fire services for the following reasons;

- To have all career staff employed within the one organisation streamlines training and enhances interoperability. It will certainly be more cost efficient in regard to a single administration and will also simplify governance.
- In the past I have had to perform solo internal fire attacks involving searching entire smoke logged buildings for multiple occupants including children. Not only is this an extremely unsafe work practice, it doesn't provide the community the service they pay for.
Imagine searching for a child with visibility at less than a metre in a hot smoke logged house which is on fire on your own while their parents are screaming out the front. How many cupboards do you double and triple check?
So you can see it is paramount to my safety and the safety of my colleagues, that two trucks with a minimum of 7 fire fighters be dispatched to incidents. The resultant outcome will be a safer community, the driving focus behind any emergency service.
- The CFA as a volunteer only service will continue to operate with no negative effect on members and service outside of the 35 integrated stations. To highlight this, the CFA will continue to perform its role as it always has on the back of volunteerism and country community spirit. They will still provide surge capacity for major events and continue to protect their local community.

Yours sincerely

Luke Cullinan

