

Kirra Vanzetti

From: Simon Majewski [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 4 July 2017 7:10 PM
To: LCSC
Subject: Fire Services bill.

To the Committee Membership,

My name is Simon Majewski, I am a Full time Qualified firefighter employed by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade currently working in Melbourne's western outer fringe at Deer Park fire Station.

I am writing to you in regards to the restructuring of Victoria's fire service, and first of all would like to thank you for taking the time to read this and let me have my say.

I think the proposed restructure will be a great and long overdue positive step, so i fully support the bill that will generate this reform for the reasons detailed below.

As a member of a Deer Park fire station we frequently turn out into Melbournes ever expanding western suburbs often with our CFA counterparts and volunteers, we do our best to service this quickly expanding part of Victoria that not only includes homes, Hospitals, huge warehouses, factories with extremely toxic and flammable chemicals but also gaols, remand centers and youth detention centers. Its hard to believe that many of these residents, workers and business owners are still being protected by an outdated fire service. Residents now living in an urbanized environment that rely on good willed volunteers to drop their work and get to the house hopefully in time to save it with unknown numbers on a truck to keep themselves safe, when they should be living in an urban environment protected by full time firefighters that get there in under 7 minutes. modernising Victoria's fire service will help correct the old boundaries that have now become obsolete. I personally live in Victoria's 2nd biggest town in Geelong, which is predicted to grow from the current 240,000 population to an expected 320,000 in the year 2036. Just 4 of the Fire stations in the region have full time firefighters. I worry about the situation should something happen to my house, and with the number of calls these stations received almost being doubled from 2006 (2796 responses) - 2016 (4971 responses). some sort of action/reform is surely needed to make those firefighters, myself and the residents around me feel safer.

I have been in this job now for 4 years and during this time have only known dispute between our management and firefighters, CFA management and there firefighters! which places an ugly scar on what should be a great place to work and grow. seeing colleagues and friends go through unnecessary challenges and mental battles that wear them down to breaking point. It needs to end! i want to see this wonderful and fore-filling job returned to what it should be, what it has the potential to become, a world leading modern fire service.

So please help us fore-fill our duty to the public and their safety by supporting the bill for fire service reform.

Thank you again for your time and i am very grateful to have my opinion voiced.

Yours Sincerely

Simon Majewski
[REDACTED]