## Kirra Vanzetti

From: Heather John

Sent: Thursday, 6 July 2017 11:24 PM

To: LCSC

**Subject:** Upper House Select Committee on CFA Bill



Dear Members of Upper House Select Committee on the Fire Services Bill,

I am an active Volunteer with the Victoria Valley Fire Brigade with 17 years' service. I have served as Brigade Communications Officer for 16 years and am presently also the Brigades Training Officer. As well I have participated in many Strike Teams both in Victoria and at Kangaroo Island in South Australia. Consequently I have a good working knowledge of the Operational and Organizational aspects of the CFA.

Therefore this upcoming Fire Services Bill has made me fearful for the future of the CFA in this State BECAUSE;

- 1; There has been no MEANINGFUL consultation with Groups and Brigades (at grass roots level) on the proposed changes and splitting of the organization.
- 2; I and most Volunteers I have spoken to, still have a lot of questions which have not been answered as to how this "split" will affect us .
- 3; The working relationships between Volunteers and Paid Staff and Professional Firefighters has been one of respect and co-operation, I fear that the creation of two Organizations will destroy that interaction.
- 4; A larger "Union controlled" Service such as FIRE RESCUE VICTORIA would demand greater financial outcomes and thus leave the CFA Brigades struggling for new equipment and training facilities and other essentials for their efficient management of fire prevention and suppression.

I am asking Members of your Committee to Recommend that;

Firstly; This Bill be split so that the Presumptive Cancer Legislation can be enacted immediately for the welfare of ALL FIREFIGHTERS, and

Secondly; That the Part of the Bill which creates the two organizations be DELAYED until all members of the CFA and the Community are consulted and listened to in regard to the future of the CFA.

Thank you for your consideration of my submission.

I am happy for this submission to be listed on the Committee's Website.

Yours Faithfully.

Mrs Heather McIntyre





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