

Kirra Vanzetti

From: FAIRCHILD, Paul [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 3 July 2017 10:30 PM
To: LCSC
Cc: Rini Krouskos
Subject: Firefighters presumptive rights compensation and fire services legislatio amendment (reform) bill 2017

Dear Assistant Clerk
 Committees

I am a Senior Leading Firefighter with the MFB and have been with the brigade for the last 29 years. I have been stationed at various stations within the metropolitan area and are currently at Broadmeadows Fire station. I live in a small town about 1 hour north of Melbourne so I know how important volunteers are whether they be cfa, st johns, lions club, rsl or your local sports clubs. About 15 years ago I volunteered to run the bar at the local football club which I did for 3 years until the club grew to a size that I couldn't do the job efficiently enough with the demand from the public. The club decided to employ and pay a full time barman which as it turned out was more profitable for the club, gave a community member employment and kept the supporters happy. My point is Melbourne has expanded a great deal and the population is expected to double over the next 25 years. We need an efficient fire service, ambulance and police in these areas of high population. This has been happening since Melbourne was first founded. There was fire brigade volunteers in all the surrounding suburbs of the city until the population grew to a point where they needed full time professional firefighters in those areas. We need to make decisions now with the expanding community in mind for the future. The volunteer firefighters should welcome full timers with open arms as we are making their community that they live in safer and are able to take a load off their backs. I dont see the problem it is a win win situation for everyone. Joining the CFA and MFB together is also a very good economic decision for the government and everyone concerned. I know if myself and my family need assistance in an emergency from the fire brigade that they guarantee to be there in 8 minutes we would feel a lot safer. No other emergency organisation can promise that. We can and we DO.

Yours sincerely
 Paul Fairchild No 5 stn C plt 4316

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