



RFSA

PLEDGE OF SUPPORT FOR RURAL FIRE SERVICE MEMBERS

I recognise and respect the incredible efforts and community dedication of the volunteer firefighters and staff of the RFS.

I acknowledge that the work undertaken by volunteers wouldn't be possible if the State had to pay for it to be done, and that communities in rural, regional and bush/urban interface areas across NSW would be poorer without them.

I believe volunteers deserve the support of government to ensure they are safe, and to demonstrate that they are respected and won't be taken for granted.

I pledge my support to them by working to:

1. **Protect the independence of the RFS** – ensuring it continues to operate as a stand-alone emergency service, and opposing any attempts to remove any of its functions.
2. **Give injured firefighters a fair go** – increasing payments for firefighters suffering permanent impairment to at least the same level as other workers, and including a presumption in workers compensation laws that firefighters with PTSD acquired it through their service to ease the claim process for those suffering mental ill health.
3. **Provide the safest vehicles and equipment** – delivering the RFS increased budget allocations in real terms to ensure firefighters have access to newer, safer appliances, up to date safety equipment and decontamination processes, and improved brigade stations.

Signature

Candidate name

Date

Electorate

Party