

To The Fire Services Reform Bill Select Committee,

My name is Cameron Larchin and I am a Leading Firefighter with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB). I am currently stationed at the Sunshine Fire Station but during my eight year career have been stationed at several other stations (Deer Park and St Albans) that also respond to support the Country Fire Authority (CFA), predominantly the Caroline Springs Fire Brigade. Previous to this I was a Volunteer Firefighter with the CFA at Werribee and also a Project Firefighter with the Department of Sustainability and Environment (now DELWP).

When making my decision on whether or not I supported fire services reform I asked myself the question "Are my family and friends in Victoria safer with or without this reform?" and the simple answer is "Yes" and that is why I have written to the Committee in support of The Fire Services Reform Bill.

I lived in the Hoppers Crossing, Werribee and Tarneit growth corridor for thirty years and now reside in the fast growing Torquay area. As a resident in these areas which have seen a rapid rise in population growth and infrastructure I believe they require and deserve a modern urban fire service that can guarantee a rapid response of appropriately trained personal in a timely manner. From experience I can unfortunately say that as both a CFA Volunteer Firefighter and MFB Career Firefighter that this is not the case in these urban areas and this scenario is common across many suburbs in Victoria.

I am confident that if you approach the inquiry with an open mind and critique the information provided to you with an emphasis on facts and doing what will provide the safest outcome for the community that you will also support these reforms.

I welcome any further discussion about Fire Services Reform or my personal experiences at

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Kind Regards

Cameron Larchin