

**Prue Purdey**

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**From:** CHILDS, Michael [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 30 June 2017 5:10 PM  
**To:** LCSC  
**Cc:** CHILDS, Michael  
**Subject:** Submission - Fire Services Reform Bill.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I write in reference to the proposed Fire Services Reform Bill currently before the select committee.

I am a proud MFB Station Officer with 15 years of service, currently stationed at Fire Station 18 Hawthorn and previously much of my career spent at Fire Station 03 on the Heavy Rescue appliance. I both live and work in an area covered under MFB jurisdiction which affords me the luxury of a full time career staffed fire service; something every rate payer living in an urban environment should also be afforded. One of the key aspects of service delivery to the community that MFB provide is a 90 second response time to any emergency call with a minimum of 7 fire fighters on the fire ground; this is vital as it allows a fast efficient response with back up immediately available should fire fighters become trapped such as in the case of a house fire. In addition to our delivery as a fire rescue service to the community, MFB has been operating the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) program for the past 15 years in conjunction with Ambulance Victoria and has been directly responsible in countless numbers of lifesaving interventions.

With the proposed transfer over to Fire Rescue Victoria I stand to lose 126 years of tradition yet do so happily in the belief that these reforms are not about the individual but rather, what is best for the community.

The Victorian Fire Service has been in turmoil for years and this is a fantastic opportunity for everyone to embrace change and move forward into the future to deliver a quality service to the hugely changing population of Melbourne. I believe the Fire Rescue Victoria model of encompassing all career fire fighters will work, and finally allow us some stability to work together and progress in to the future to provide a world class fire rescue service. By the same token, restoring CFA back to its original model of a volunteer only Fire Rescue Service is a positive move and will only restore the interest that committed volunteers have always had, through these uncertain times.

In my opinion the proposed changes make little difference to our combined response to emergency calls; CFA will continue to respond with FRV and likewise FRV will continue to respond with CFA, the only difference being that with at times there may be an enhanced response which can only be a good thing.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Mick Childs.

**Station Officer Mick Childs | D Platoon**  
**Hawthorn Fire Station | Eastern District**  
**Metropolitan Fire Brigade.**  
 45 Williams Street, Hawthorn Vic 3122  
 [REDACTED]

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