

Fire Services Bill Submission

3rd July 2017

Station Officer Tyson Scurrah

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I hereby submit this statement under confidentiality.

I am a Professional Firefighter employed by the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board. I hold the rank of Station Officer and I've been employed by the MFB for almost 19 years. I am currently stationed at Eastern Hill Fire Station on C Platoon and I support Fire Service Reform.

Being a member of the Fire Brigade means helping the community to the very best of my ability. Responding to emergencies in time critical situations allows my crew and I to provide a service which is invaluable to the public. I have witnessed this on many occasions throughout my career, where we have arrived on scene and managed to rescue someone from harm or save their house from fire. I see this as being the greatest benefit of Fire Service Reform. Minutes save lives and if we can provide Melbourne with the very best service possible, I believe we owe it to the community.

People should not be disadvantaged because the Fire Brigades Act has not been updated since 1958. The community deserve to be resourced by full time Firefighters who can protect their life and property when they live in an outer suburban area. The focus of this Reform should be centred on the community and how we can properly serve them. Not politics.

Sincerely,

Tyson Scurrah