



**Malcolm Scott McGraw**

06/07/2017 01:09 PM

To Consultation/DTF@DTF  
cc  
bcc  
Subject Fire Services Reform Bill

Re: Submission for Fire Services Reform Bill

Dear sir / madam

I write to you in order to ask you to support the recently proposed fire services reform bill.

I have been employed by Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board (MFB) for the last nine years and currently hold the rank of Leading Firefighter. For the past 10 weeks I have been based at Victorian Emergency Management Training Centre (VEMTC), Craigieburn as a candidate on the current Station Officer Course.

Specialist qualifications that I hold include HAZMAT Technician, Breathing Apparatus Service and Control Unit. I was awarded a National Emergency Medal in 2015 for my contribution to the Victorian fires in 2009.

I have lived in Metropolitan Melbourne most of my life, before moving to Torquay in 2013. I am not a volunteer firefighter nor have I been in the past. Torquay is a town covered immediately by a volunteer fire service/s and is 15km away from Belmont and Geelong City Country Fire Authority (CFA).

I am writing this submission in full support of the proposed reform of the fire services for the following reasons:

- My family and friends that live outside the current MFD boundaries are entitled to the same fire coverage and benefits and advantages that it provides. What this means is that for urban populations, having seven firefighters on the fire ground, two fire fighting appliances, guaranteed backup and despatched within eight minutes;
- Having an Operational Chief Fire Officer;
- Metropolitan Fire District (MFD) boundaries have not changed for 60 years and do not reflect the growing Victorian population;
- The Emergency Medical Response (EMR) program that has been highly successful in the MFD needs to be offered to the greater community. I have witnessed many confirmed saves since the EMR program has been introduced. There is no reason under fire reform that this would not continue for the greater community;
- Where wild fire used to be the norm is now replaced with more structure fires and requires all of the above as a response for the community and to greater protect life and property of more Victorians;
- Long standing disputes within the MFB and its firefighters would be drastically reduced with a more harmonious work place moving forward. The impact of the ongoing industrial dispute on my colleges, family and myself have been significant and all have an extremely strong desire to see it end; and

Fire reform in Victoria is long overdue and is required for so many reasons and so many more Victorians can experience and have what they deserve.

Please feel free to contact me on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED] should you wish to discuss further.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Scott McGraw

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]