

**PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES (BUSHFIRES COMMITTEE) AMENDMENT BILL**

Mr BROCK (Frome) (11:25): I cannot believe that the government will not at least look at this bill and establish this committee, as the member for Davenport has requested. I will be very brief. Many speakers on this side of the house have been very passionate about this. Bushfires know no rules; they have no boundaries. If anybody understands what it is all about it is the people living in the communities. I understand members on the other side are only following the directions of the caucus or the party, but please look at it quite seriously.

We need to establish a committee to look at the facts. It is very easy for us in this house to make rules and regulations. The people who understand the issues are those at the coalface; namely, the ones who are out there working, the CFS and the farmers who deal with it all the time. As members on this side of the house have indicated, it is a very, very emotional and personal issue. This year is going to be the worst ever for bushfires. You only have to travel outside of the metropolitan area of Adelaide to the northern parts of the state and the West Coast to see that the bushfire load is very high. As the member for Schubert has indicated, there are crops and weeds out there that are two metres high. We need to be able to deal with that.

The member for Bragg has indicated that we have taken away the early warning fire sirens. We are not able to use those. Just in Clare, they had a fire siren, an early warning system, which was not allowed to be used. I am very supportive of this bill. I encourage and implore the government to support this member's bill. The member for Davenport has my 100 per cent support.