



DAVID MORRIS MP

**Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Local Government
Member for Mornington**

MICA Officers – A Government that refuses to engage

Statement to the Legislative Assembly – 12 August 2009

Mr MORRIS (Mornington) — This morning I rise to condemn the Brumby government for its refusal to negotiate in a meaningful way with mobile intensive care ambulance (MICA) paramedics. Victoria's MICA paramedics are dedicated health professionals who serve our community extremely well despite an increasing workload and reduced opportunities — —

Ms Morand interjected.

Mr MORRIS — It is about the way you treat them.

Mr Howard interjected.

Mr MORRIS — What was that?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER — Order!

Mr MORRIS — This time it was the MICA paramedics who were required to fill the gaps left by the government's refusal to properly resource basic services — a tactic known only too well to Victoria's police — and they are not happy. To quote a veteran who has served for 25 years:

... the current government fails to recognise our dedication, professionalism and contribution to both our patients, the health system and wider community.

... Mr Brumby's ongoing disdain for our efforts ...

... his overwhelming ignorance of and understanding of what we as MICA paramedics achieve.

... Mr Brumby's inaction and his contempt for our profession and our patients.

Ends