

CORONAVIRUS — FRONTLINE WORKERS

Statement

HON COLIN TINCKNELL (South West) [6.41 pm]: I thank honourable members for alerting me to what is going on with the unions in the Philippines. I am an ex-union member of eight years, but that was 40 years ago. However, tonight I want to make a brief statement. I am sure that many of the words I say will be agreed upon by all members of this place. I want to talk about COVID-19 and the unsung heroes of this crisis—the frontline workers and volunteers. So many people put their bodies on the line, are in harm's way, and do so on behalf of the people of WA. It is so important for them to be acknowledged. I know that I bring Parliament with me on this. I am talking about the doctors, nurses, emergency service workers, police officers, retail workers, food suppliers, health product people, drivers, stackers and people who are still working during this crisis, who are making it easier for us to have better health, be well fed and stay safe on the streets. We have a long way to go, and it is these people, as I said, who are the unsung heroes of this crisis. There are many other workers who I have not acknowledged. I thank all associated workers, such as schoolteachers and people who are doing their job under extreme circumstances. I want to say on behalf of my party, but also this place, that as a parliamentarian, our job will be to support them and make sure that those unsung heroes get every bit of support, acknowledgement and encouragement from this house and the other place.