

MIDWEST RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE

Petition

HON COLIN de GRUSSA (Agricultural) [9.02 am]: I present a petition containing 2 643 signatures couched in the following terms —

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament Assembled.

We, the undersigned, support the establishment of a Midwest based Rescue Helicopter Service to provide a vital service to communities across the region.

A Midwest based Rescue Helicopter Service will provide critical care medical services and respond to incidents including motor vehicle accidents, trauma injuries and search and rescue missions. The service will also transfer critical care patients from regional medical facilities to tertiary hospitals. When a Rescue Helicopter responds to a critical incident, the patient's chances of survival increase by 40 percent.

The Midwest is one of the two regions in Australia that does not have access to a regionally based Rescue Helicopter Service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Regional lives matter, so a Mid West based Rescue helicopter, including a dedicated helicopter landing facility at the Geraldton Regional Hospital should be a priority.

We therefore ask the Legislative Council to recommend that Premier Mark McGowan and the State Government to establish a Midwest based Rescue Helicopter and allocate funding for its ongoing operation.

And your petitioners as duty bound, will ever pray.

[See paper 4005.]