

**EDUCATION SUPPORT WORKERS — WAGE OFFER**

*Petition*

**MR C.J. TALLENTIRE (Gosnells)** [3.01 pm]: I have a petition regarding the remuneration of education assistants, school cleaners and gardeners in Western Australia. It has been certified as conforming to the standing orders, and it has been signed by 10 711 people. The petition reads —

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned, say the State Government is offering more than 10,000 education assistants, school cleaners and gardeners a pay rise of 2.5 per cent. This is only 44 cents an hour and isn't enough to pay the more than \$1,000 in increased bills from the State Government alone. This year, you have put up water by 10 per cent, gas by 23 per cent and electricity by 25 per cent.

While we understand that the economic climate has changed, the WA economy is still growing and with big projects on the way like Gorgon, we think it unfair that you are asking some of WA's lowest paid public workers to accept a pay rise of just 2.5 per cent. Especially when you just gave the police a pay rise of 8 per cent.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to urge the Premier, Colin Barnett and the Treasurer, Troy Buswell to offer a fair pay deal comparable to the rise other public sector employees already received earlier this year.

I table the petition, which has been signed 10 711 petitioners.

[See petition 191.]

*Petition*

**MR P.B. WATSON (Albany)** [3.02 pm]: I have a petition containing 3 455 signatures, which reads —

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned, say that the State Government is offering more than 10,000 education assistants, school cleaners and gardeners a pay rise of 2.5 per cent. This is only 44 cents an hour and isn't enough to pay the more than \$1,000 in increased bills from the State Government alone. This year you have put up water by 10 per cent, gas by 23 per cent and electricity by 25 per cent.

The National Party has always said that it believes in standing up for regional workers, but to date the National Party has not stood up for educational support staff in regions. We play a critical role in ensuring quality educational outcomes for our children in regions and play a critical role in our communities; we deserve a wage offer that is comparable to what the Liberal/National government has already agreed to for teachers and police.

Now we ask that the Legislative Assembly urge the leader of the National Party, Brendon Grylls, to publicly support a fair pay deal comparable to the rise other public sector employees already received earlier this year.

[See petition 192.]