

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES UNABLE TO RECEIVE
PUBLIC TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS

262. Hon SUE ELLERY to the Minister for Transport:

- (1) Is the minister aware that some people with disabilities who are able to travel independently but are unable to tag on and off public transport because of significant permanent physical disability are unable to receive a concession from the Public Transport Authority?
- (2) Did the minister receive a request to review this issue and when was that correspondence received?
- (3) Has a decision been made by the PTA to address this issue; and, if not, why not?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of this question.

I am not satisfied with the written response that I have before me, but I will try to answer it on the spot to provide an answer to the honourable member, as I recall that she has raised this matter with me and I regret that she has not yet got a formal reply. The reason she has not yet got a formal reply is that this is one of those situations in which correspondence has been bouncing backwards and forwards between an agency and a ministerial office because the minister has been asking the agency to modify its position. The short answer to the member's question is —

- (1) Yes, I am aware that there is a problem with some people with disabilities who are able to travel independently but who are unable to tag on and off public transport because of a significant permanent physical disability.
- (2) I have just acknowledged that I have received a request and the member should have received a response by now.
- (3) In terms of a decision by the PTA, I can advise the member that there is an avenue or recourse available to her constituent and I will communicate that to her in the very near future.