

ROCKINGHAM-KWINANA — GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

Petition

MR P. PAPALIA (Peel) [4.26 pm]: I have a petition bearing 66 signatures and I certify that it conforms to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly. It reads as follows —

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

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr M.J. Cowper): Members, I am listening to the member for Peel. If you do not want to listen, move out.

Mr P. PAPALIA: The petition reads —

We, the undersigned, acknowledge that the State Government is investing around \$100 million in the Rockingham Kwinana District Hospital, resulting in it being tripled in size and offering a range of new services.

However, we are extremely concerned about the Commonwealth Government's lack of provision of general practitioners throughout the Rockingham and Kwinana communities and the over-reliance on overseas-trained doctors being taken from countries that can ill afford to lose them.

Accordingly, we ask the Legislative Assembly to call upon the Commonwealth to provide additional general practitioners in outer suburban areas like Rockingham and Kwinana to meet this need.

It is not fair or equitable to have a situation where people living in inner-suburban areas have double the access to GP services that people in outer-suburban areas have.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Members!

Mr P. PAPALIA: The petition continues —

We would also like to place on record our appreciation for the service provided by those doctors and other health professionals who do work in the Rockingham and Kwinana areas.

[See petition 301.]

The ACTING SPEAKER: On behalf of the rest of the house, I apologise for those members who did not take the time to listen to the member for Peel's petition. I am sure that they will not appreciate having to speak over others when they are presenting petitions.