

COMMISSIONER FOR SENIORS — APPOINTMENT

Petition

HON SIMON O'BRIEN (South Metropolitan) [2.05 pm]: I have a petition containing 2 501 signatures couched in the following terms —

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

We the undersigned residents of Western Australia are concerned about the lack of co-ordinated advice and protection for senior West Australians.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully request the Legislative Council to recommend the Government appoint a Commissioner for Seniors, to fill a similar role to the Commissioner for Children. Support staff should be seconded from various departments—Attorney General, Seniors, Health for example. This Commissioner should report to the parliament, not the Government, and be appointed for a four year term, the appointment to fall half way between state elections. The Commissioner should have powers to act on behalf of seniors, including in exceptional cases take legal action. The Commissioner should also make policy and other recommendations to Government

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See paper 4059.]