

**PETITION IN RELATION TO CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT
(HOME BURGLARY AND OTHER OFFENCES BILL) 2014**

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

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We the undersigned residents of Western Australia are opposed to the passage of the *Criminal Law Amendment (Home Burglary and Other Offences Bill) 2014*. The Bill expands the mandatory sentencing regime in Western Australia, including for 16-17 year olds, and will result in a significant increase in youth detention rates for non-violent home burglaries. The Bill will disproportionately impact Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, who made up 78.3 per cent of all young people in detention in Western Australia in 2013-14.

The serious and violent offences committed in the course of an aggravated home burglary, for which the Bill also introduces new mandatory minimums, already carry extremely heavy penalties, and the Government has not provided evidence of a single case which shows that existing sentences given to 16 and 17 year olds are inadequate.

If, despite our opposition, the Bill is passed, your petitioners respectfully request that the Legislative Council introduce and pass the following amendments:

- Remove all references to 'juvenile offender' and changes to the counting rules for those under the age of 18, so that the Bill does not apply to young people.
- Change the definition of 'review date' to mean 'the first anniversary of the day on which the *Criminal Law Amendment (Home Burglary and Other Offences) Act 2014* section 4 comes into operation.'

We further request that the Legislative Council refer the Bill to a Committee for further review.

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

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE