n the State of

Western Australia, am the promoter of this petition which contains 786 signatures.

the Standing Orders of the Legislative Council I certify that this Petition conforms with

PETITION IN RELATION TO COUNTRY TAXIS

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

We the undersigned support country taxi plate licence owners being paid the same financial assistance as paid to metro taxi plate licence owners under the Buy Back scheme. The financial assistance package offered to country taxi plate licence owners falls well short of the metro Buy Back. This is inequitable and unjust.

Under Buy Back metro taxi owners were paid a floor price of \$100,000, however the floor price set for country taxi owners is \$20,000 only, despite metro and country taxi owners having invested similar amounts to purchase the taxi plate licences. Tax implications arising from the structure of the regional assistance payments is causing further hardship for country owners.

Applying the '5 plates' cap to owners of country taxis is unjust as no such legislative restriction applies to country taxi ownership. Numerous other inequities exist between the two schemes. Country taxi owners should receive the same financial support given to metro taxi owners. Failure to fix this inequity means country towns risk losing their reliable 24/7 taxi service, impacting especially vulnerable elderly and disabled people.

We therefore ask the Legislative Council to order the Standing Committee on Public Administration to inquire into all aspects of the State Government's Buy Back and regional assistance schemes to identify inequities between the two schemes and the action needed by the State Government to remedy this wrong.

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

FULL ADDRESS SIGNATURE NAME

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