

ALCOHOL — LEGAL AGE LIMIT

Nonconforming Petition

MR P. ABETZ (Southern River) [9.01 am]: I have a petition signed by 39 people pertaining to raising the drinking age to 21. It is addressed as follows —

To the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia;

The Petition of citizens of the State of Western Australia brings to the attention of the Legislative Assembly the need to take preventative and proactive measures to further minimise the damage, and other harm, of alcohol on our young people. The petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Assembly of the State of Western Australia introduce the following amendments...

**THE LEGAL AGE FOR PURCHASE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL TO BE
RAISED TO 21—Key evidence clearly reveals an instant impact of this change in
reducing youth violence, youth suicide and reckless and dangerous driving.**

The petitioners base their call for change on both empirical and anecdotal based evidence which demonstrates clearly quantifiable decrease to harmful actions and events involving young people where this change has been implemented. The Petitioners respectfully call on the State Government to have these recommendations ratified by the passing of legislation to bring about the change.

Those who listened carefully to the wording of the petition will know that it does not conform to standing orders; therefore, I will not table the petition but will pass it on to the Minister for Racing and Gaming.

The SPEAKER: That is very strange.