

SHACK SITE COMMUNITIES

Petition

MR M.J. COWPER (Murray-Wellington — Parliamentary Secretary) [4.37 pm]: I have a petition from 107 petitioners regarding shack site communities, which reads —

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

We the undersigned say that:

Leased Shack Sites Communities, such as Wedge Island, Grey, Donnelly River, Broke Inlet, Dampier Archipelagos, and Israelite Bay have long been the traditional holiday/recreational destination for many thousands of ordinary Western Australians.

Most Shack Site Communities sprung up to accommodate the gathering of farming and town based families to enjoy holidays together in remote and idyllic fishing locations right across Western Australia.

Some Shack Site communities went onto becoming fully-fledged towns such as, Bremer Bay, Jurien Bay, Dongara and Horrocks, whilst some Shack Site Communities have disappeared.

However, some residual communities remain, with a strong sense of community and have become the preferred holiday option for many thousands of Western Australians.

These places are tangible examples of sustainable lifestyles, where younger generations can learn responsibility and become creative and family traditions and stories can be passed on.

The loss of these communities will seriously diminish the social, economic and health well being of many ordinary Western Australian families.

Now we ask that the Legislative Assembly support our campaign for the Government to

Examine how other States of Australia, including South Australia, Tasmania and New South Wales have retained conforming Shack Site Communities in order to preserve these valuable assets for many Western Australians to have affordable coastal holiday destinations and continue to allow human interaction all but lost in today's society.

Similar petitions were presented by **Mr J.N. Hyde** (190 signatures) and **Mr A.P. O'Gorman** (325 signatures).

[See petitions 177, 178 and 180.]