

ROYAL PERTH HOSPITAL - NAME PRESERVATION

Statement

HON BARRY HOUSE (South West) [9.46 pm]: Hon Helen Morton is paired tonight so that she can attend to parliamentary business in her electorate. In Hon Helen Morton's capacity as the member responsible for health matters in this chamber, she had a job to do tonight. However, she is unable to do that job, so she asked me if I would seek leave on her behalf to table a nonconforming petition. I understand this petition has been collected over a period in the corridor of the Wellington Street overpass that connects the various sections of Royal Perth Hospital. It is similar to one that has been tabled in the Legislative Assembly. The petition contains 4 145 signatures and requests that the Legislative Council oppose the proposed closure of Royal Perth Hospital and the discontinuance of the name Royal Perth Hospital as a consequence of the proposed closure. I believe I have covered the intent of the petition. I will read the exact words.

Hon Kim Chance: Can you tell us why it is nonconforming?

Hon BARRY HOUSE: Yes. It is nonconforming because it is not addressed to the President of the Legislative Council and does not contain a prayer. The wording of the petition is -

WITHOUT SUPPORT THE NAME OF ROYAL PERTH HOSPITAL WILL DISAPPEAR

TO THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WE THE
UNDERSIGNED CALL UPON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO STRONGLY **OPPOSE THE**
CLOSURE OF ROYAL PERTH HOSPITAL AND TO **ENSURE THE NAME ROYAL PERTH**
HOSPITAL IS MAINTAINED.

To take away the name of this icon is to insult every member of an enormous team who have served through 151 years of service with pride and dedication to the community of Western Australia under the name of Royal Perth Hospital.

It appears that many residents of Western Australia have gone to considerable effort to express their view to this house of Parliament. On behalf of Hon Helen Morton, I seek leave to table this nonconforming petition.

Leave granted. [See paper 1810.]