

MAMMOGRAPHY FACILITY — KIMBERLEY

Petition

MS J. FARRER (Kimberley) [9.01 am]: I have a petition with 744 signatures that has been signed by women and men in the Broome area in the Kimberley. It regards mammogram testing, which people sometimes miss out on, and 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 Women in the Kimberley region are at great health risk due to the absence of a permanent Mammography facility.

With a female population of approximately 18,000 in the Kimberley region & vastly growing, a permanent Mammography facility is urgently required.

Currently, women only have two options:

- a bus, kitted with the facilities, visits Broome & the remote surrounding communities once every two years;
- or women are required to travel to Perth (a 2.5 hour flight from Broome) for a Mammogram.

This is not adequate, particularly for those women in the more remote/outer Indigenous communities who are at dire risk of neglecting their health. Statistics show that 1 in 8 Australian women are at lifetime risk of developing breast cancer & with the disease being the most common cancer affecting women, their health is a serious risk here.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly:

request that the Western Australian State Government funds a permanent Mammography facility in the Kimberley.

[See petition 221.]