

CEMETERIES

Petition

HON TJORN SIBMA (North Metropolitan) [3.12 pm]: I present a petition containing 716 signatures, couched in the following terms —

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

We, the undersigned, say that the current destruction of memorials at Karrakatta and other Western Australian cemeteries as part of a process the authorities term redevelopment is both unnecessary, shows great disrespect to families whose loved ones are interred therein, and disrupts the association of the people of Western Australia and their history. It is particularly disrespectful of deceased servicemen who have elected to be interred with their loved ones, rather than in the War Cemetery.

We therefore ask the Legislative Council to move to halt the redevelopment of Western Australian cemeteries, to restrict the further removal and destruction of headstones, markers, plaques and any other type of funerary monuments or memorials at those cemeteries and press the government to take urgent steps to establish new cemeteries to meet the needs for future interments. And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See paper 1473.]