

DEREGULATION OF RETAIL TRADING HOURS

Petition

Mr A.P. O'Gorman presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 1 452 persons -

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 deregulation of retail trading hours will adversely impact small business retailers, their employees and the local community. Suburban shopping centres are a common point of contact for the local community and any negative impact on the local businesses will ultimately impact on the community itself through such things as reduced sponsorships to local sporting groups, schools and community organisations etc. Current trading hours provide a balance in the competition between small retailers and the greater purchasing power of the major chains. Deregulation will ultimately lead to the major retail supermarket chains commanding 80% of all trade, as has been the precedent in the Eastern States. The flow on of such an impact will lead to the decimation of smaller businesses that rely on the walk by trade created by these small supermarket retailers.

Now we ask that the Government protect small business retailers, their families and the local community by rejecting any attempts to deregulate trading hours in the State of Western Australia.

[See petition No 145.]