

**GENETICALLY MODIFIED CROPS — MORATORIUM**

*Petition*

**HON MATT BENSON-LIDHOLM (Agricultural)** [11.02 am]: I present a petition containing 20 signatures and 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 residents of Western Australia, oppose the decision to allow the unrestricted commercial growing of Genetically Modified (GM) canola in W.A. We believe this decision will irretrievably negatively impact on so many: Organic farmers who will face loss of certification and who do not have the option of controlling the expected transgenic weed populations with herbicides, conventional (even GM) farmers who will face extra danger and expense from the herbicides recommended to control these Round Up Ready weeds, the environment which will suffer the impact of those chemicals and the advent of “superweeds”, Non GM farmers who will face loss of their markets, brassica vegetable seed producers whose seedstocks will be contaminated, and consumers who will lose any choice to eat GM free brassicas or animal products. We ask the Legislative Council to renew the moratorium on GM crops in this State and your petitioners in duty bound will ever pray.

[See paper 1778.]