

**CONTINENCE AIDS PROGRAM**

*Petition*

**MR A.P. O'GORMAN (Joondalup)** [9.01 am]: I present the following petition -

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 children with disabilities and health conditions, adults of working age with disabilities and health conditions, and seniors are disadvantaged by the absence of a Western Australian Continence Aids Programme.

The eligibility for the Commonwealth Continence Aids Assistance Scheme excludes many people in need and the level of subsidy is insufficient to meet the needs of many working age adults with disabilities.

My name is Carme Ansel and I am 48 years old, I receive limited financial support through the Commonwealth Continence Aids Assistance Scheme. This funding does not meet the cost of the continence products I need; I am on the Disability Support Pension and I spend in excess of \$700 per year to meet this basic health need. If I did not spend this amount I would be housebound and my health and quality of life would deteriorate. This impacts significantly on my ability to meet other essential costs of daily living.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to ensure that Western Australia joins every other State and Territory in Australia and implements a mean tested Continence Aid Programme for Western Australians of all ages and abilities

The petition bears four signatures and I certify that it conforms to the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly.

[See petition 104.]