Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Wednesday, 25 June 2003] p9225b-9225b Mrs Cheryl Edwardes

DECRIMINALISATION OF CANNABIS

Petition

Mrs C.L. Edwardes presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 98 persons -

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, oppose the Gallop Labor Government's push to decriminalise the cultivation and possession of cannabis.

In the face of mounting evidence that cannabis use leads to serious mental and physical health problems, we consider it irresponsible for the Gallop Government to normalise its use among young people.

We strongly believe that the decriminalisation of cannabis will lead to increased availability of this dangerous drug, higher rates of drug related crime and drug dealing, as well as increased organised crime activity.

Now we ask that the Legislative Assembly reject these changes.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 220.]