

DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSION — GROUP HOMES

Petition

MR D.J. KELLY (Bassendean) [12.03 pm]: I have a petition signed by 12 petitioners that reads —

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

We, the undersigned, say we oppose the outsourcing of 60% of Group Homes in the Disability Services Commission (DSC).

This will affect the lives of approximately 300 individuals with an intellectual disability and result in the axing of 500 public sector jobs. We believe that people with a disability, their families and advocates should have the choice to stay with their current government service if they wish.

Government should maintain a viable role in providing accommodation services where accountability and transparency is a matter of public record and stability can be assured.

We support the opportunity for those in group homes to look at alternative models of accommodation support if they choose and believe that the process of planning, implementation and ongoing support can be carried out by existing DSC social trainers and support staff through any number of flexible accommodation options.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to:

- Reverse the proposed cuts to DSC Accommodation Services.
- Ensure that individuals currently in DSC Group Homes, their families and guardians are given the choice to stay with their current service provider.
- Recognise and deploy the skills and commitment of the 500 accommodation staff in implementing a National Disability Insurance Scheme into the future.

[See petition 355.]