

## **Visit to the Parliament of WA by the delegation from Haining, Zhejiang Province, China**

I was privileged to host a delegation from Haining in May. It was a great opportunity to further extend our friendship with another city in China and establish strong economic ties. Haining has a long standing relationship with the South West Region of Western Australia

The visiting Delegation included: Zhu Minger (Vice Chairman, Haining Committee of People's Political Consultative Conference), Xu Jianming (Vice Director, Haining Finance Bureau), Wang Jue (Vice Director, Haining Culture and Sports Bureau), Zhu Liying (Vice Director, Haining Foreign Trade and Economic Bureau), Huang Jie (Interpreter, Foreign Affairs Office of Haining Municipal Government), Zhu Jianjie (Haining Hongxiang Sports and Culture Co. Ltd), and Edwin Zhuang (interpreter on behalf of AMRSC/SWDC)

Haining's economy, which relies on leather and textiles, benefits greatly from its geographical advantages. There were many connections between our economy in Western Australia which relies heavily on the mining industry and Haining's economy.

The delegation was interested in our newly refurbished Chamber and our system of Government. The city of Haining is rated as the National Eco-Environment Model City in China. Science and Technology also featured heavily in our discussions, with the delegation explaining how Haining is one of the National Advanced Cities of Science and Technology in the Zhejiang Province.

The delegation also travelled to my Electorate (the South West Region), where they learnt more about the Margaret River wine region and met with representatives from the Augusta-Margaret River Shire Council, South West Development Commission and Margaret River Chamber of Commerce and Wine Industry Association.



Picture: *The President, Hon. Barry House MLC (centre) with the Dalian Delegation and representatives of the Augusta-Margaret River Shire Council and South West Development Commission.*