

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL (NO. 2) 2006

Standing Orders Suspension - Motion

MR J.C. KOBELKE (Balcatta - Leader of the House) [3.29 pm]: I move -

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as is necessary to allow the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006 to -

- (a) be dealt with when government business has precedence;
- (b) proceed through the second reading debate at any time after the second reading has been moved; and
- (c) proceed through all stages without delay between the stages.

I will explain the motion briefly. Paragraph (a) allows the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006 to be dealt with in government time. Clearly, this is a private members' bill that was instigated by the members for Ballajura and Kalgoorlie. If it were to be dealt with in private members' time, we would not be able to deal with it in time so that it could take effect if that were the agreement of both houses of this Parliament. Therefore, the government feels that it is appropriate that this matter be brought on as a matter of urgency and that government time be provided for it. As a matter of urgency we could use standing order 168, but paragraph (b) of the motion has the same effect, which means that the matter can proceed once this motion has been passed. Paragraph (c) proposes that the bill proceed through all stages without delay between the stages. That overcomes the problem we might have if there were an amendment or if leave were required. Those requirements in standing orders would not hold up the progress of the bill. As such, on the passage of this motion the bill could proceed through all three key stages as required without further delay. I therefore commend the motion to the house.

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe) [3.30 pm]: The opposition agrees to this procedure. It is the logical way of dealing with the bill. I hope that the debate can proceed in an orderly way and that all members have the opportunity to express their view. I hope they do so briefly.

Question put and passed.

Second Reading

Resumed from 25 October.

MR P.D. OMODEI (Warren-Blackwood - Leader of the Opposition) [3.31 pm]: I indicate my support for the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. In my time in this place I doubt whether anything has been as emotive or controversial as this bill. I certainly have been lobbied from near and far on this issue. There are a host of different reasons that people say they want this bill supported or they do not want it supported. The bill proposes to hold a trial of daylight saving for three years, followed by a referendum. My initial thoughts were that, rather than a referendum, we should have a poll, which would be far less costly. At the end of the trial period, if it appears that the community opposes daylight saving, the government could introduce a bill to repeal this bill. Alternatively, if daylight saving is supported, another bill could be introduced to continue daylight saving.

I have a rural electorate. Many of the people in my electorate are opposed to this legislation. When this legislation was first mooted, the noes came out in force. In the past few days there has been an overwhelming yes campaign taking place. We have to ask ourselves: what is the position of people in the community of Western Australia? Members of this house will have a free vote on this bill. From the feedback I have had it is my judgment that the community will vote yes. However, it is very hard to analyse the vote very closely given that some people are running campaigns and some people are reacting spontaneously. Over the past week my electorate office received 67 calls, the majority of which were against daylight saving. Some of those calls came from localities across the state. My office in Perth has received significant numbers of telephone calls and e-mails that have pitched both sides of the argument. We have to ask ourselves whether this is a worthy issue for this Parliament to decide given that people in the community believe this is a smokescreen for problems that the government has with ministers. Some people say clearly, vocally and strenuously that we have already had three referendums, all of which have said no. The last referendum was held in 1992. The yes vote was 47 per cent and the no vote was 53 per cent. In 1984 the yes vote in the referendum was 46 per cent and the no vote was 54 per cent. As such, the vote has remained reasonably constant. My research tells me that, since 1992,

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

p7886b-7952a

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approximately 420 000 people between the ages of 18 and 32 years have not had a chance to vote in a referendum on daylight saving. That is a significant number of people by any measure. As we know, daylight saving is used in a number of other states. In the past two weeks in particular, in my travels around my electorate and in the metropolitan area, I have taken it upon myself to conduct a straw poll at each place I have visited, whether it was a businessmen's breakfast or lunch or some other sort of meeting. In most cases people have overwhelmingly been in favour of a trial of daylight saving. The only exception was last night in Midland. That meeting appeared to be about 50-50. There are many arguments for and against this issue. The time has come. It is now 14 years since the last referendum that tested whether people want daylight saving.

The argument is for an additional hour of daylight in the evening. That would give families an opportunity to spend more time together. Western Australia has unique features and attractions that people can enjoy. Some of the feedback I have had in my electorate from young people is that they will have an opportunity to go fishing in the afternoon because they will have an extra hour of daylight after they finish work. Most farmers start work before the sun comes up and they go to bed after the sun goes down. Under previous daylight saving experiments there were some issues for farmers. There was an issue about milk processing times. Milk tanker timetables were not changed. In addition, there were problems with the opening times of grain bins. Those issues are not insurmountable. I expect that commonsense will prevail and that times will be amended to fit in with the daylight saving regime.

Some people do not like daylight saving full stop. They do not necessarily give reasons; it just does not suit their lifestyle. In a democratic society they are entitled to their point of view. There is no doubt that daylight saving will provide more time in the afternoon for people who enjoy the twilight hours. People who rise early in the morning to exercise, such as rowers, runners and cyclists, will be opposed to daylight saving. The community is fairly evenly divided on this issue. It will be interesting to see how the referendum is decided; it will be interesting to see whether the same vote is achieved.

I have to admit that people have rung me asking how many times they have to vote no. That is from people who are very opposed to the idea. This legislation will affect people's lifestyles. As such, everybody has an opinion. When I went home this weekend and attended the Smith Brook jumps, I thought I would be inundated by people giving me their opinion on the issue, as most people in the agricultural region appear to be against daylight saving. In fact very few people talked to me about daylight saving. I think my wife spoke to more people about daylight saving than I did. That left me to enjoy a wonderful day and some nice drinks at Smith Brook. The jumps were very successful. Approximately 1 000 people were there, which is a not insignificant number. However, my phone might run hot tomorrow by all who are opposed to daylight saving. When I visit businesses and various other places, the overwhelming response from business is that it supports daylight saving. That includes businesses from the major corporations to small businesses, particularly those that deal with the eastern states. The majority of them are of in favour of daylight saving.

There will be an impact on tourism. I mentioned in this place the other day that, between now and 2010, Western Australia requires 42 000 new skilled migrants just for the resources sector alone. Most of those people will come either from the eastern states or overseas, and daylight saving operates in most of the places they come from. They will come from places in which the city never closes down, and in which there are ongoing cultural and artistic activities. To attract and keep those people in Perth and in Western Australia, we need to create a lifestyle that is second to none. I am very confident that we can provide a vibrant environment for people to come and live in this magnificent state of Western Australia, whether in the city or in the regions. We can provide an environment in which people will enjoy the same things they enjoyed in the places they came from. It is very possible that there will be another 500 000 people living in the Perth metropolitan area and in the regional centres by the year 2020. Those figures were predicted by the Committee for Perth, which is planning for the next 14 years. Daylight saving is one of the things that will attract people to the city.

I could be proved wrong, but as a leader faced with a decision about what I think is best for my constituents and those who support my side of politics, my judgment is that we should support daylight saving. The building and construction industry certainly supports daylight saving. People who must be on site early in the morning and are regulated by local government and legislation about starting times for concrete pours and so on are very much in favour of it. There are arguments both for and against daylight saving from the health perspective - whether there will be more or fewer skin cancers and so on. There are many arguments both for and against

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daylight saving. I have weighed them up and made the decision that I will support this legislation. I am sure that every member of Parliament has a slightly different point of view and is being lobbied from a slightly different perspective. As Leader of the Opposition, I have been receiving approaches from people with all different kinds of suggestions. I could not repeat in this place some of the messages that have been left on my phone! Other people have telephoned with encouraging and positive comments supporting daylight saving, given that very early in the debate I indicated that I would support legislation should the government introduce it. Now a private member's bill has been introduced and all the arguments have been articulated. On the basis of the comments I have just made, I will support the legislation.

MRS D.J. GUISE (Wanneroo - Deputy Speaker) [3.43 pm]: I support the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. Some time ago I was preparing my newsletter, which is currently with Australia Post, and decided as a matter of public interest, since some debate was going on in the media and the public domain at the time, which tends to happen from year to year, to include in the newsletter, ironically enough, a poll on daylight saving. I would have preferred to have had time to receive a response from my community on that, but events have clearly overtaken me. I am still urging my constituents to respond to the poll contained in the newsletter, because I think it will provide great base data, perhaps to inform my upper house colleagues or to prepare for any future referendums. However, to date, judging from telephone calls and e-mails, the response is an overwhelming yes for daylight saving. In fact, I am a bit like the member for Hillarys in pleading with people to stop sending e-mails. Currently I am receiving e-mails from three days ago, and they are backing up in the system. The system is a bit overloaded, so if the e-mails can stop now that I have the message, it will not be a problem.

I am one of those people who used to vote no, but I figured, in sending out this survey to my constituents, that if I was capable of changing my mind, so are other people. The last referendum was held 14 years ago, and I am conscious that I have in my electorate many newly arrived people who are used to daylight saving and ask why Western Australia does not have it. There are many migrants in the northern suburbs. The member for Hillarys is nodding his head, so he knows what I am talking about. I am also hearing the arguments run by the business community, and they are valid. A lifestyle issue is also apparent. I am hearing more and more from young families that they consider themselves to be time poor, and they would like that extra time to spend with their families. I hope that they take that up. I was talking to a woman this morning who has just come back from Alaska, and she said that it is daylight there until 11.00 pm, and the people there love it, so what is the problem here? Interestingly, I also spent some time this morning with some seniors who said they hoped that I was intending to vote yes. A lot of the phone calls I have received have come from people I would consider my more elderly constituents, and the sentiment seems to be negative from them. However, the e-mails and some more recent phone calls seem to be coming from the younger set. I am wondering whether there is perhaps an age factor in this question, although I hope there is not. However, two phone calls to my office today seem to confirm the age factor. Apparently I had two phone calls to my electorate office this morning from people who said that they were ringing because they wanted me to know that they supported daylight saving, having just found out that their parents had rung and said that they opposed it! I asked how old these people were, because there were two separate phone calls wanting to counter the votes of their parents. I expected them to be quite young, but apparently they are aged in their 40s. It looks like it is the 40-year-olds versus the 70-plus-year-olds in this argument, which is rather interesting.

I do not want to hold up this debate. We all want to speak quickly on this issue. The sentiments to date support an overwhelming yes vote. I am urging my constituents to respond to my poll because that data will be very useful in a future debate, perhaps to inform my upper house colleagues. It is important that daylight saving be given a trial period, particularly for the business sector. We should be assessing how doing business with the eastern states stacks up against doing business with South East Asia. Currently it appears that we are more in line with Victoria and New South Wales, in which case we should align ourselves with those states, but is there a valid argument for doing so? I would also like families to have an opportunity to reassess daylight saving and decide whether it is better for them. In terms of health, as somebody who probably needs to get out and walk more, I urge people to embrace this change and spend the time well with their families. The proposal for a referendum has my support. This issue affects everybody in the community, judging by the responses that we have received to date. It has been put to a referendum three times before, so we owe it to the public to give people an opportunity to have another say after a trial period. On that basis, I urge the 25 170 householders that will receive my newsletter to respond to the poll, and I urge everybody to support the trial and the referendum.

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MR R.F. JOHNSON (Hillarys) [3.48 pm]: Mr Acting Speaker (Mr P.B. Watson) -

Mr J.B. D'Orazio interjected.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: We like a bit of fairness in this place, guys.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: But I am an Independent.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The member should be on this side if he is an Independent!

I will make a few comments on this Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006, and I promise that I will not go on at length. There is only a certain amount that can be said for or against this bill. When this issue first became public, about a week ago, I started getting the odd phone call to my office, and I started to get the odd e-mail. I stress the word "odd" in relation to the-mails! The initial calls were from people who threatened that if I voted for daylight saving, they and their families and friends would never vote for me or the Liberal Party ever again. Conversely, I then got phone calls from other people who said that if I did not support this bill, they and their families would never vote for me or the Liberal Party ever again. I am damned if I do and I am damned if I do not, according to those people. The attitude on both sides was unreasonable. I personally have always been in favour of daylight saving. However, I would cast my vote in the house on the basis of representing my electorate. If my electorate was a country seat, I might well have decided to vote against the bill. However, I represent a seat in the northern suburbs, which, as the member for Wanneroo said, comprise thousands and thousands of new immigrants who have moved there over the past 20 years and who are used to daylight saving hours. I believe that they overwhelmingly support the bill before the house to trial daylight saving and to then hold a referendum on the issue.

As members are aware, I went on radio yesterday and pleaded with people to stop sending me e-mails on the issue. I have received approximately 3 000 e-mails.

Mr E.S. Ripper: I have received 3 500.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: It is probably about that number now. I stopped downloading them about six o'clock last night because I had to go somewhere. They were sent by people from throughout the state. Some 90 or 95 per cent of the e-mails were from people who support daylight saving and about five per cent were from those who oppose it. I realise that it is an orchestrated campaign set up by someone to encourage people to contact all members of Parliament to let them know how the pro-daylight saving people feel. They believed that some thought it was a foregone conclusion that the bill would be passed and they were mindful of the people who are contacting MPs asking them to vote against the bill. I decided to look at all the e-mails and, unless the e-mail had a name and an address in my electorate, I deleted it. I pressed the delete button as fast as they were being sent to me. I had to leave on my computer system about 250 e-mails. Of those 250 e-mails from my electorate, I suggest that probably 225 or 230 were from people who said that they support daylight saving and hope I will vote for it. My electorate office received a number of phone calls, a similar percentage of which were in support of daylight saving. About 75 or 80 per cent of the people who have bothered to let me know how they feel and what they believe I should do to represent them support daylight saving, and roughly 20 or 25 per cent - it changes slightly in time - are opposed to daylight saving. I will vote in favour of the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006 because I believe that I should represent the people of my electorate.

Whether or not we have daylight saving does not affect me one iota. I will enjoy life whether or not it is introduced. However, some members might be unsure about how they will vote because of the issue of putting children to bed at night. I have four children who were brought up in the United Kingdom, which has daylight saving. We had some very good summers there. It is a myth that England is always a dull and rainy place. We had some beautiful summers. I had a lovely swimming pool and a beautiful garden. During the summer it would still be light at 10 o'clock at night. Members might say that that is very late and that the children would not go to sleep. I assure members that children go to sleep when their parents put them to bed. If parents train their children, as my wife and I did, they will go to bed at an appropriate time. My children stayed up later on Friday and Saturday nights and enjoyed daylight saving. On Sunday nights they went to bed at the usual time so that they would get up at the appropriate time to go to school on the Monday morning. Daylight saving is not a problem for children. Children do sleep even though it is still daylight outside. From the first-hand experience I have had raising children, I do not believe that daylight saving will affect any children in Western Australia. Daylight saving will give families more opportunities to spend time together during the summer evenings. It is

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my belief that my family will be able to spend time in the garden, on the beach or at the swimming pool. We enjoy a barbecue more when it is still light rather than when it is pitch-black and must rely on lighting to see what we are doing.

Mrs J. Hughes: You can see what you are eating.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: Exactly. I can tell members that from a Pom's perspective - that is what everyone thinks I am, and I suppose I am - we had to get used to having our Christmas dinner on a 40 degree day in Australia. That is not a problem for me. My family still has the traditional Christmas dinner of roast turkey, Yorkshire pudding with loads of vegies, and Christmas pudding with brandy. We continue to cook the usual Christmas dinner that we are used to and we enjoy it, even when it is 40 degrees. These days we tend to eat it inside where we have airconditioning, but for the first 10 years when I immigrated to Western Australia, we had fans but not airconditioning. However, we coped with that quite well. People adapt to conditions. Families will have a lot more time to spend quality time together during daylight saving. When I was on holiday recently, I paid for most of my family to join me. What gives me the most pleasure in life these days is to spend time with my family, including my children and grandchildren. I enjoy swimming with them and, even at my age, I am still going down the water slides. It is lovely and I recommend it to anybody.

Mr J.R. Quigley: Watch your back.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: My back is okay. Daylight saving is all about spending time with the family. When we are not in this place, I hope I will have more time to spend with my family in the open air while it is still light during summer. During winter, it is dark and cold outside and we tend to spend more time inside. During summer we should spend more time outside.

I have put this matter to two different community groups. About a week ago I met with a community group of 42 people. I conducted a straw poll on this matter and asked them who supported the bill and who did not. I asked everyone who supported it to put up their hands. Forty-one of the 42 people put up their hands. I had to ask whether anyone was opposed to it and just one person put up his hand. The group contained people of various ages. That was a reflection of where we have come in the past 14 years. The last referendum on the issue was held 14 years ago. Many people today were children 14 years ago and did not get a say in the referendum. Many of them have a different view from their parents on the issue. The member for Wanneroo gave a classic example of members of one family. The older parents did not want it and the younger parents, who are in their 40s, which is very young, are in favour of it. People's views and expectations do change. The people in my electorate support it.

I was at a community open day on Sunday morning that was attended by 70 or 80 people. I did not put the question of daylight saving to the group because it was too difficult as they were spread out. However, many people volunteered their view on the matter and told me to make sure that I voted for the bill, and I told them that I probably would. I also asked people how they felt about it and found that about 80 per cent said yes and 20 per cent said no. That truly reflects my electorate. Today I will vote to represent my electorate. It just happens that that coincides with my personal view. As I said earlier, if the overwhelming majority of people in my electorate were opposed to it, I would have voted against the bill.

I do not run the family business anymore; it is run by my son. I have very little to do with it other than it cost me money to set it up years ago. My son deals with the eastern states all the time. If he phones the eastern states in summertime, he has to do it before about two o'clock in the afternoon. In fact, he has to do it before about half past one in the afternoon, because a lot of people go home early in summer so that they can go to the beach. That makes it very difficult for business people. I accept that farmers have a different view. I respect their view. However, 95 per cent of the small business people who have contacted me, particularly those in the metropolitan area, are in favour of daylight saving.

Daylight saving will also be good for tourism. I have a great love of tourism. When friends from England come to Western Australia, they stay with me, but they come here as tourists, and they spend money here. I know for a fact that they will enjoy the benefits of daylight saving, because it will enable them to see a lot more of this state during daylight hours. I will be voting for daylight saving. I cannot speak for other members. I am speaking only from my perspective as the member for Hillarys. I am reflecting the wishes of the constituents of the electorate of Hillarys. I hope this bill will be passed by both this house and the upper house.

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MR J.B. D'ORAZIO (Ballajura) [4.01 pm]: I had not intended to speak on the second reading of the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. In fact, I indicated last week that my second reading speech on the Daylight Saving Bill would apply also to this bill. However, I want to take the opportunity that is available to me under the standing orders to present to this Parliament the reaction from the community over the past week to this bill. Some members may be wavering in their minds about the opinion of the community on this issue. I can tell members that the number of e-mails that we have received on this issue has been astronomical. As at 2.30 this afternoon, my office had received 5 137 e-mails. Almost 96 per cent of those e-mails were in favour of daylight saving. I have printed out the e-mails. I actually have two boxes of e-mails, so if any member wants to spend some time reading them -

Mr R.F. Johnson: I would love to read them all!

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Some of them are very interesting. As at 2.30 this afternoon, we had received 1 952 e-mails that we had not opened. We have received so many e-mails that the system has crashed. Not all the emails have been positive, by the way. I do not know whether the member for Warren-Blackwood and Leader of the Opposition have received the same e-mails that I have. Some of the people who are opposed to daylight saving have been quite vicious in their e-mails. Some people have threatened that I will have my legs broken. Some people have made some nasty comments about my parentage.

Mr T.R. Sprigg: You have broken a few legs in your time! You are the "Godfather", are you not?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: I will get to that in a moment!

Several members interjected.

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: I am speaking today for a particular reason. The people who have taken the time to e-mail and contact us have gone out of their way. I need to record in this debate the fact that so many people have made the effort to contact us. I want to present these e-mails to the house so that the statistics will be recorded in *Hansard* forever. As I have said, my office has received more than 5 137 e-mails. We have been very careful to ensure that if two e-mails have been sent from the same email address, we delete the second one so that we do not get a figure that is not true and accurate.

Mr B.J. Grylls: Your poor staff!

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Yes! I was going to get to that. Ailsa, who is in the public gallery, and the other staff members in my office have had an absolute bugger of a week. They have said to me, "No more private members' bills, please!"

Mr R.F. Johnson: What did you say?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: I said, "See you next week!" I want to present these e-mails to the Parliament. I am not sure whether I can table them for those members who want to see them. As I have said, 96 per cent of the e-mails are in favour of daylight saving.

Mr R.F. Johnson: You can seek leave to lay them on the table for the balance of this day's sitting.

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: I do not want them to be taken out of the chamber and made public.

Mr R.F. Johnson: No. If you seek leave to lay them on the table for the balance of this day's sitting, they cannot be taken out of the chamber.

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: For the record, the e-mails that I am holding up are the ones that we have received in opposition to daylight saving. The two boxes of e-mails are the ones that we have received in support of daylight saving. I say that because I do not want to be accused of not presenting both cases.

Mr R.F. Johnson: Did you print them all off?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Yes.

Mr R.F. Johnson: What a waste of paper!

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: This is an important issue.

Mr B.J. Grylls: Daylight saving will lead to the loss of old-growth forests!

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Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: I would not have printed them off, but because a referendum will be held at the end of three years, I thought it was important that members understand how many people have indicated that they support daylight saving and how many people have indicated that they are opposed to daylight saving. It is important that that be on the public record.

Mr R.F. Johnson: They will still be on the computer system even if you have deleted them.

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Perhaps I do not understand the computer system as well as the member does. I am from the old school. I like to see things in black and white on a piece of paper.

I reiterate to the house that this is the biggest reaction to any issue that I have seen in my 26 years in public life. The reaction has been very strong from both sides of the argument. All the other important issues that we need to deal with seem to have taken second place. I thank my staff for their efforts in fielding the calls that we have received over the past week. I also thank the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition for their support. It restores my faith in the parliamentary system that on an issue such this we can all stand in this place and say what we truly believe, and be given a free vote, so that we can arrive at the best outcome for the community.

I do not support everything in this bill. I do not support the referendum. However, I will be supporting the compromise bill that has been introduced by the member for Kalgoorlie and co-sponsored by me, because I believe it will unify the "yes" position and provide the best opportunity to put daylight saving in place at least for three years. At the end of that period, there will be a referendum, and the community -

Mr J.E. McGrath: Why only three years? Why not five years?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: I would prefer to have no referendum at all.

Mr J.E. McGrath: If 95 per cent of people support it, why do we need a referendum? Why not just do it?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Because that is the position that the majority of members in this Parliament seem to support. In the end, this is a democracy, and the majority opinion will prevail.

I also thank the member for Kalgoorlie for giving me his support when I approached him to take a joint position with the government on this matter. His support was fantastic. However, I have a beef with the member for Kalgoorlie. He referred to himself as the father of daylight saving and to me as the godfather of daylight saving. I like to think of both myself and the member for Kalgoorlie as the parents of daylight saving. The only problem is that I am not sure who is the mother and who is the father! We can have that debate on another day.

Mr M.J. Birney: You might have spoken a bit too soon in any case! You should just retract those words for a couple of weeks!

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Is that right? Is the member suggesting that we should wait until it happens? I actually think the term "godfather" should be given to the member for Hillarys - sorry, the member for Mindarie -

Mr R.F. Johnson: Whaddya say; whaddya say?

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: The member has always said he wants to be an Italian!

Mr R.F. Johnson: I am an honorary Italian!

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Let me put this in context. I commend the member for Mindarie for the work he has done behind the scenes to bring us to this position. Had the member for Mindarie not approached me to encourage me to do what I did, we would not be in this position. The people of Western Australia can thank the member for Mindarie for encouraging me to introduce the concept of daylight saving when I did. Had he not done that, I probably would have done it a day later. I also thank the member for Mindarie for helping me to gain the support of the Labor caucus for this bill. I thank all the other members on both the Liberal and Labor sides of politics for their support. I have much pleasure in handing to the member for Mindarie the title of the "godfather" of daylight saving. The member for Kalgoorlie and I will have to be happy with the title of the "parents" of daylight saving. Does the member for Kalgoorlie not want to be a parent? Is the member suggesting he is a bit young for parenthood?

Mr M.J. Birney: Perhaps next year I'll be ready!

Mr R.F. Johnson: He's working on it!

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: He is practising! Is that what is happening?

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An opposition member interjected.

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: Not from me, he will not!

The people of Western Australia are looking forward to the opportunity of enjoying daylight saving for three years. I look forward to the debate in the upper house. I know that the vote in that chamber will be close. I also know that those upper house members who oppose daylight savings do so strongly.

Mr J.E. McGrath: You'll do the numbers.

Mr J.B. D'ORAZIO: If I do them, it might not work!

I reiterate to all concerned that this debate and the decision to introduce daylight saving - if it comes about - will restore faith in the democratic process. The fact that an Independent member can introduce a bill into Parliament and receive the support of both sides of politics - with a consensus position being reached - in the space of a month and a half speaks volume about the members of this place.

I also extend a vote of thanks to the media, because it obviously understood the feeling in the community. The media brought the issue of daylight saving to the attention of the community. It also took up the challenge of ensuring that members of Parliament received the message that Western Australians want a daylight saving trial. In my opinion Western Australians want daylight savings permanently. I look forward to the debate and to the final vote in the upper house. Let us pray that Western Australians are able to enjoy daylight saving from 3 December. I thank all concerned for their support and cooperation and, hopefully, their vote.

MR J.R. QUIGLEY (Mindarie) [4.13 pm]: I rise to speak briefly on the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. Having been nominated as the godfather of this legislation by the member for Ballajura, I graciously accept the title. This is a year of fatherhood for me; I became a grandfather in May and I will become a father again in February. To be acknowledged and nominated by the member for Ballajura and the member for Kalgoorlie, who have done so much to bring this debate on, as the godfather of this bill is something that I accept with pride. In Australia the word "godfather" is a term of benevolence. A godfather means someone who nurtures a child or an idea. Over the winter period I was approached by many of my constituents who wanted to know whether Western Australia would ever have daylight saving. Daylight saving was not on the radar at that time and was not up for debate. The issue was almost like having an elephant in the middle of this chamber that we were not allowed to discuss. The member for Kalgoorlie raised the issue once; however, the matter was as controversial in his party as it was in ours, so it was not openly and publicly debated. It became the elephant in the chamber; everyone knew it was there, but no-one wanted to talk about it.

In response to my constituents in the electorate of Mindarie - it is a very forward thinking and trendsetting electorate on the Western Australian coast - I undertook to canvass the opinion of my constituents and determine their degree of support for daylight saving by holding a referendum. I drew up the referendum paper and it was published in the *Sunday Times* several weeks ago. That referendum kicked off the public debate, although at the time I did not anticipate that that would happen. Once people saw that I was conducting a referendum in the electorate of Mindarie and that the trendsetters in the electorate that extends from Ocean Reef to Quinns Rocks and back to the other side of Marmion Avenue would be the first people in Western Australia in 14 years to be afforded a public vote on daylight saving, there were two responses. Firstly, other members of Parliament thanked me for putting them in the cart; they said that they would have to match my efforts and conduct some sort of community feedback poll on daylight saving. Secondly, members from surrounding electorates decided that what I was doing was a good idea and that they would do likewise. A week later Madam Deputy Speaker, as the member for Wanneroo, and the member for Joondalup also announced in the *Sunday Times* that they too would conduct a referendum on the issue of daylight saving. This meant that a referendum would be conducted in Western Australia from Craigie in the south to Two Rocks in the north and over to Swan in the east. There was such a momentum about the issue and a critical mass build-up in the city of Perth that the matter had to be embraced by this house. Incredibly, the referendum that I am conducting in Mindarie has shown members of this house that the issue of daylight saving can be non-political. Indeed, the Mindarie referendum has reached across the political divide. From time to time members send out political surveys to their constituents. If I send out 15 000 surveys, I am lucky to receive 1 000 replies. On the first day after the referendum paper was sent out I received just under 600 replies. The referendum paper was distributed on Sunday; therefore, in order for me to

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have received responses this morning, people obviously went to their letterboxes on Sunday night, dug out the referendum papers from the newspaper, filled in their responses and posted them on Monday.

Mr B.J. Grylls: How can you vote on this before you get the result of the referendum?

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: Quite easily. What is coming through from Mindarie is a very strong result. Indeed, 82 per cent of respondents so far are in favour of daylight saving. By voting against this bill the member for Merredin and the Luddites in the National Party will seek to deny the people of Western Australia a vote on this important legislation. As was pointed out by the member for Kalgoorlie in his well-reasoned argument that was published in the *Sunday Times*, clause 5 of the bill provides for a referendum on daylight saving on a day not earlier than 10 May 2009 and not later than 13 September 2009. I am shored up by the vote so far. As has been demonstrated in the early vote, 82 per cent of the people in Mindarie want daylight savings. I am sure that the other electorates will fall in behind Mindarie because it is Western Australia's trendsetting electorate. The godfather of daylight saving is underpinning this trend, assured in the knowledge that between 10 May 2009 and 13 September 2009 every one of his fellow Western Australians will be given the opportunity to confirm what we in the electorate of Mindarie already know: daylight saving is a no-brainer in Western Australia

MS K. HODSON-THOMAS (Carine) [4.18 pm]: I was hoping to receive the call in time to acknowledge my son who was in the public gallery; however, he has left.

Mr C.J. Barnett: He is off to the beach; that is what daylight saving is about!

Ms K. HODSON-THOMAS: Yes, he is off to the beach.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am sorry, member for Carine; you were beaten on the voices. I am sure he is here in spirit.

Mr C.J. Barnett: He will be back for dinner in an hour.

Ms K. HODSON-THOMAS: He is lucky if his mother prepares him a home-cooked meal, because she is never quite sure when he will be home!

The Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) is about lifestyle. As an early riser, I am not like the young people who start their day in the latter part of the day. I have had long discussions with my children about daylight saving. I am sure that that is why my son was in the public gallery. He knows that from a personal perspective I am not a great supporter of daylight saving, even though I have lived with it in the eastern states. I have taken the opportunity to engage my electorate about this matter. The e-mail campaign about daylight saving has been the most amazing campaign that I have seen in my time in politics. To date I have received 3 243 e-mails about this issue. At one stage I thought that the vote was 10 in favour and one against - I am receiving more e-mails as I speak - but it is actually 30 in favour and one against. Clearly the people in the community want daylight savings in this state. As I said, I have endeavoured to engage the members of my community to hear what they have to say about this issue. Daylight saving is obviously very important to them. I have also looked at the way my electorate voted in the three daylight saving referendums. It was quite clear that my electorate was supportive of daylight saving in the three referendums. In the 1992 referendum, 54 per cent supported daylight saving in my electorate. I think that is largely because it is a coastal seat. We have some of the best beaches in the metropolitan area. I have heard the member for Cottesloe say that his beaches are even better.

Mr C.J. Barnett: You have some of the best beaches north of Cottesloe!

Ms K. HODSON-THOMAS: It is a clear indication that even in 1992 my electorate supported daylight saving. At the two prior referendums, again, there was a clear indication by my electorate that over 50 per cent supported daylight saving. I am mindful of their wishes and that is why I will be supporting the daylight saving legislation moved by the member for Kalgoorlie, the parent, and the other parent, the member for Ballajura. I suppose, as I look at all these e-mails I am receiving, that I have both of them to thank for the situation.

It has been a very interesting campaign. It is a shame that other legislation does not encourage the same sort of participation. I was endeavouring to answer the e-mails, but they became so numerous that it was impossible to let people know how I felt about the matter. It was even harder to work out who was in my electorate and who was not, because some people gave their addresses and others chose not to.

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This matter is about lifestyle and it is about business and small businesses being able to operate with the eastern states. It is about the tourism sector wanting this change as well, and the fact that people's lifestyle experiences have changed. People are working at different times and they want to enjoy some quality time with their family in daylight hours. There are all sorts of arguments against it, but ultimately the legislation needs to go through. It will be a trial with the opportunity for the community to vote again. My view is that if we go down this path, we should make a determination to just do it. Obviously a decision was made by others that we needed to have another referendum. It was interesting to hear the Leader of the Opposition say that since the last referendum in 1992, 400 000 people are now on the roll who did not have an opportunity to vote then. Two of them are my sons, as is the case with many others in this place. They are certainly telling me, "Mum, get with it. Vote for daylight saving; it's a good thing."

I received an e-mail from a friend who runs a business and does a lot of work interstate. He said - and I know it has been mooted in the paper - that Western Australia should move half an hour forward and the eastern states should move half an hour back so that there is only a one-hour difference 365 days a year. That is probably something that should be considered. I found that suggestion quite interesting. A one-hour difference between west and east would be a fantastic thing for business.

It is quite clear to me that the community wants daylight saving. I have received more e-mails and not a single one on my computer screen says that the sender does not support daylight saving. They are all in support of daylight saving. I wish someone could tell them to stop sending them because I am finding it all a bit too much. It has been an interesting experience gauging the community in that way and, as I said, it will be interesting to see whether the community participates in other legislation in the same way as it has with this measure. With those few comments, I will be supporting the legislation.

MR B.J. GRYLLS (Merredin - Leader of the National Party) [4.24 pm]: I rise to make my comments on the clock moving bill that we have before us. It has been very interesting because I personally have some sympathy for daylight saving, and I have said that publicly. I actually thought, as others have said, that there might be some movement from the country electorate that I represent and the wider country areas, which is why I raised the issue earlier in the year. It is very clear to me, however, that there has been very little movement from country Western Australians. They made that very clear to me as I travelled round prior to this debate even starting. I am very sure that when it comes to the opportunity to vote on this bill I will vote to represent what my electorate has asked me to do, which is what we are all charged with doing.

I also find it quite offensive that people who do not support daylight saving are regarded as backward or not progressive. The people who support daylight saving do so because they believe it will benefit their lifestyle. I have no trouble with that; I understand that completely. However, the people who do not support daylight saving do so because they believe it will negatively affect their lifestyle. I do not think that is backward in any way or not being progressive. They are expressing their opinion. I think we can lose the "backward" and "not progressive" terms that are used about people who do not support daylight saving. The arguments such as "the curtains will fade" are never actually put. It is an argument that supporters of daylight saving use to denigrate those who do not vote for it. The fact is that country people seem to be constantly blamed for the fact that we do not have daylight saving, but I wish we had had the ability in the previous three referendums to change the course of the vote. It is simply not the case. The previous three referendums on daylight saving were lost because a majority of people who live in Western Australia - and the majority live in the metropolitan area - decided to vote against it. I think these snide remarks and off-the-cuff comments that country people have stopped daylight saving - the "curtains fading" and "the cows will not come home" arguments - are quite a denigration of country people and it is not deserved. I do not seek to debate the for or against arguments. Everyone has a very clear view on whether they do or do not support daylight saving, and they should be respected for that. I personally have some support for it. Given the comments made by members of this Parliament about the lifestyle that we lead as parliamentarians, having daylight saving would be an advantage. That is the only thing on which we can base our personal opinions - the lifestyles we lead. It is very clear that the lifestyle people lead in regional areas is slightly different and that is why a substantial majority - not all of them - say they do not support daylight saving. I for one do not regard that as being backward. I do not regard the people in favour of daylight saving as being progressive and those against it as being negative or not progressive. It is just the way people are.

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I agree with members that this debate certainly has captured the imagination of many people. It has been a fierce campaign. As members of Parliament, we often call for more response to public issues, but we can see from trying to deal with our e-mail system in the past couple of weeks that if we are to have this sort of response to many of the issues we debate, we need to have a different system of managing our e-mails. It is almost impossible to manage the system and go about our business.

I move now to what I regard as probably the most important plea I have heard from an opponent of daylight saving. This is not actually putting an argument against daylight saving; it is explaining the situation that faces this person and how he feels that this proposal will have a detrimental effect on his community. I thought he made his points very strongly and I wanted to share them with the Parliament. I have the permission of the author of this letter to read it into the *Hansard*. The letter is addressed to the Premier and says -

Dear Alan

I am writing on behalf of the community to express my views about the proposed introduction of daylight saving in WA.

There have been 3 trials before in WA which were followed by a referendum. Each time the referendum was approx 55% to 45% against. Those trials were for the same time as N.S.W. & Victoria & SA. ie. forward one hour on their schedule of time. I believe if introduced this time it will be for an extra month as the eastern states will all be the same as Tasmania. I believe if introduced we would have 6 months daylight saving as previously it was one month less.

However this is not my main concern.

You are very aware that Country Australia in Agriculture is having a very hard time this year due to the absolute lack of winter rainfall. This is without doubt the worst season that I have been associated with in my 48 years farming. There are many people including small business who will have virtually no income - a lot will make a substantial loss and a few will make some small profit.

This situation will have massive implications for Australia in general.

This now brings me to my main concern.

Currently in Australia on average one Australian farmer commits suicide every four days. The number of people ringing Beyond Blue is increasing steadily fortunately. This situation is totally unacceptable. On June 1 this year one of our councillors took his own life which devastated the community. Currently there are people in the community who we keep in touch with every day. This is also happening in other areas of the state.

You would be aware that most people in agricultural areas really dislike daylight saving for many reasons including that home life becomes more difficult because of trying to get kids to bed etc.

Therefore I am writing to you to appeal to you not to introduce daylight saving this year as I believe it is another burden on families which are already under enormous pressure and I believe that some people will say enough is enough.

I also appeal to you to pay special attention to all those people who are really struggling as they really need it.

Alan if you wish and if it would be helpful I would be interested in coming and talking to you and/or parliament if it would be of use.

I believe at the end of the day it essentially comes down to a choice between money and the welfare of many suffering people. I beg you to choose the latter. Thankyou.

Yours sincerely

Brian Baxter

President of Shire of Perenjori

Mr Baxter says in that letter that it is not a matter of why people want daylight saving and why they do not want daylight saving; he raised the point that his community is under a lot of pressure at the moment and daylight saving is just another layer of pressure. He understands that people who live on the coast may wish to go to the

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beach after work etc. Opponents of daylight saving do not deny that. He is saying - I have received this message loud and clear - that in a difficult year in the agricultural region, this is another thing that has added to the many pressures. It is quite clear from everybody's comments that country people do not support daylight saving. The comments of Mr Baxter -

Mr M.J. Birney: You do; you're a country member.

Mr B.J. GRYLLS: I am talking about the majority. That is very clear.

Mr M.J. Birney: You're the Leader of the National Party, and you do.

Mr B.J. GRYLLS: I am representing my electorate. I have no problems saying that I personally support daylight support and I will vote to reflect the views of my electorate. I certainly have no problem recognising the concern of the president of the Shire of Perenjori about what daylight saving could mean for his community. I hope that his concerns are not met and that the level of pressure on these communities is relieved in the near future. Hopefully with the start of harvest, a bit more grain will go into the bins than is currently predicted. Daylight saving will add another level of pressure to a community already under enormous pressure. Anyone from the country who understands the issues that have been raised by the shire president of Perenjori should think about that when they make their decision on this bill.

At the moment country MPs are being asked to go against the wishes of their electorate to support the line of the two major parties. The Premier has urged country upper house MPs to vote for the legislation. He is on the record and has been reported in the press as saying that. Even though we recognise that the majority of country electors are against daylight saving, the Premier is urging country upper house MPs to vote for it. Last week in the Parliament the Leader of the Opposition stated -

The feedback I am getting from my electorate is that my constituents will kill me if I support daylight saving. The unfortunate part of the issue is that I am the leader of a major political party in this state, and I must consider what is best for Western Australia. On that basis, I have no hesitation in supporting daylight saving.

Even though the Premier recognises that country people are opposed to daylight saving and it is against their wishes, he is urging country MPs to vote for it. The Leader of the Opposition has decided to vote for daylight saving, even though it is against the wishes of his electorate. It worries me that to get elected in Western Australia and to win favour in the metropolitan area in the future, it will be imperative to ignore the wishes of country voters. The first salvo in the changed electoral environment is being fired this week in the Parliament and unfortunately it seems that country people will be the collateral damage.

MR B.S. WYATT (Victoria Park) [4.35 pm]: I do not propose to speak for a great length of time. I will make a few points simply because of the public feedback that I, like all members of Parliament, have received. What surprised me initially about the Daylight Saving (No. 2) Bill 2006 is the response that I have received from members of my electorate and from people all over the state. It is quite clear from the many e-mails that we have all received that this bill has a personal impact on everybody. Every time I have spoken to somebody, I have been given different views. I note that the member for Mindarie referred to different family members who have different views. I have been quite heavily pressured by my mother to vote against this bill.

Mr G. Woodhams: Your mother cares for you.

Mr B.S. WYATT: She does care for me.

Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan: I hope she lives in the electorate.

Mr B.S. WYATT: She does live in the electorate and, like 2 000 other people who live in the electorate, will not be voting for me again if I support this bill. However, I do not think she voted for me the first time. That is perhaps not a loss. However, I will be voting in support of this bill.

Ms K. Hodson-Thomas: Shall we send her a copy of your speech?

Mr B.S. WYATT: She will be reading it. This bill does have some significance for the people of Victoria Park. The last three referendums on daylight saving have been relatively close.

Dr K.D. Hames: What does your dad think?

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

p7886b-7952a

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

Mr B.S. WYATT: He supports me whatever I do. In the last referendum in 1992, 47 per cent voted yes and 53 per cent voted no in the electorate of Victoria Park. If that was a general election, the result would be quite decisive. In a referendum, that result is particularly close. My electorate has changed quite significantly since 1992. The average age of my constituents has decreased significantly. The nature of how people work has changed significantly. As the Leader of the Opposition pointed out in his speech earlier this afternoon, there are 420 000 people in Western Australia who were not able to be involved in the last referendum. I am certainly one of those people, which is why I look forward to the opportunity to vote in a referendum based on my experience in the trial for daylight saving in the event that this bill makes its way through the upper and lower houses of Parliament.

I will quickly reflect on the e-mail responses that I have received. I think we have all received between 3 000 and 5 000 e-mails, which are obviously part of a campaign. It is worth acknowledging that campaign. Even though they are annoying and have completely destroyed e-mail systems, people have made the effort to click on a site and acknowledge their position. My view is that these people would normally not organise around a political party. I have worked with many of these people in the legal sector. Many of my clients were these sorts of people. When they organise, they organise very effectively, which is what they have done. I have not asked my staff to go through the 3 500 standard e-mail letters I have received but I have made an effort to reply to the constituents who have phoned, e-mailed or written to me. I have responded to all these e-mails and have returned all those calls. A debate such as this brings new members of Parliament such as me back to earth because we have received some clear and forthright views from constituents on exactly where they stand on this issue. As the member for Ballajura indicated earlier, some of my constituents have not pulled any punches in letting me know exactly what they think of me and this issue. This is an issue that would be foolish for me to ignore. I support daylight saving and I believe that the majority of my electorate supports the trial. It is imperative that the trial be followed by a referendum. Some members are not interested in the referendum process other than that a referendum on decisions made by governments occurs at the time of a general election. Some constituents have made the point to me that there have already been three referendums on this issue. They have asked why we have to keep making this decision. The precedent of three referendums is an argument that is more in support of us having another one. This is an issue that Western Australians hold very close to their hearts one way or the other; it is contentious. A referendum is needed to make the final decision on whether any form of a permanent regime of daylight saving is introduced into Western Australia.

I support the referendum very strongly. I am looking forward to the trial so that I can make my decision at the referendum as a considered decision of an adult based on an educated position. I know that some people exercise in the morning. My mother has those concerns and she does not support daylight saving. I exercise both in the morning and afternoon depending on what exercise I am doing, whether it is rowing or going for a run. I will deal with the change and I am sure that the large majority of Western Australians will also deal with it.

I conducted a poll in my electorate; I contacted councillors, schools and community groups to get a general feel for the opinions of people who have not contacted my office. The large majority of my electorate has not contacted my office, although I initially received a very strong response. The broad view is that people are not really sure and do not really care. However, they are willing to give it a go. That is the feel I am getting. It is not such a ringing endorsement as that received by coastal members. However, I would not expect it to be. A lot of people have made the point to me that they will probably vote no in the referendum but that they do not mind the trial. It may be that the trial will change people's positions. I do not know. There is a general view that the elderly - the senior citizens - of the electorate will be strongly against daylight saving. The average age of those people who have contacted my office and who are against daylight saving suggests that that may be correct. Despite that, I have been to a couple of senior citizens halls in my electorate since this issue became a topic of significant debate. It seems that senior citizens are just as divided on this issue as the rest of the community. I am confident that all the constituents of Victoria Park will give the trial a go before they make their final decision at the referendum.

It is worth noting the argument the business community is running in support of this bill. I spent many years in the private legal sector working with national law firms. Many of my colleagues were in the eastern states and Asia, as were many of my clients. I found that, in all my dealings with my Asian clients and colleagues, time differences were insignificant. We live in a global world with global time. The way we communicate means

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that we can deal with matters regardless of the time. Even though Asia is where all our exports are going and where the state is making most of its money, most day-to-day business contact is with the eastern states. The point has been made; I will not dwell on it for long. Without daylight saving, if business has not dealt with colleagues or clients in the eastern states by one or two o'clock in the afternoon, the work will not get done that day. I understand why the business community is strongly in support of the trial.

I will conclude with those remarks. I thank all those in my electorate who made the effort to contact my office. It was certainly appreciated. If I could get this sort of response from my electorate on other issues I raise, I would be delighted.

MR J.H.D. DAY (Darling Range) [4.44 pm]: It is my intention to support the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006 to allow for a trial of daylight saving over the remainder of this summer and the next two summers. Given that we have had trials followed by referenda at less than 10-yearly intervals between 1974 and 1992, and that the last trial was held almost 15 years ago, it is probably timely that we have another trial over a greater period than was the case previously. It is also pertinent to note that anyone under the age of about 32 years would not have had the opportunity to vote in a referendum on daylight saving. It is a reasonable argument that people under that age should have the opportunity to have their say about whether we should have daylight saving in this community. It is the case that there are many people who would like to use an extra hour of daylight at the end of the day rather than use it in the earlier part of the day. It is the case in summer that without daylight saving the sun rises fairly early in most parts of Western Australia, especially in the east of the state. It was fairly light this morning at about quarter past five. There will still be enough light available in the early part of the day for people who want to use that time. An extra hour of daylight at the end of the day can be used for general exercise or sporting activities or for social activities and a range of other things.

I was speaking to somebody in the building industry last night at a school graduation that I attended. He expressed the desire that the Parliament approve daylight saving being introduced in the state again. He made the comment that, because of noise regulations in residential areas, it is not generally possible for building workers to start before about 7.30 in the morning. Workers would rather have that extra hour of daylight available at the end of the day rather than during the early part of it so that more work can be done. I must say that my observation of a lot of building sites - and being involved in building a residence at the moment - is that I do not see many building workers after about four o'clock in the afternoon. Nevertheless, it must be the case that, in some circumstances, some building workers wish to work later in the day and would wish to use the extra hour of daylight at the end of the day.

I recognise that many people in the community are not in favour of daylight saving. That is particularly the case in rural parts of the state. It also appears to be the case with a lot of older people in the community. That applies in my electorate as well. Certainly, in the earlier part of this debate during the first half of last week, a number of people said that they were opposed to members supporting daylight saving. They made contact with my electorate office. Like all members, I have received a huge number of e-mails over the past five days or so that have mainly been in support of another trial. I recognise that many of them are from people living outside my electorate of Darling Range. Quite a lot of people have approached me in my electorate on a personal basis to express their support for daylight saving.

Everybody will be able to have their say in 2009 after the trial. In politics we cannot please all the people all the time. This is certainly one example of that. However we vote, some people will be unhappy.

For the record I wish to have in *Hansard* a brief summary of the results from the last referendum in 1992 in Darling Range based on each polling booth. The boundaries have changed since then but, even taking into account the change of boundaries as can be best determined, there was a slight majority in favour of daylight saving in 1992 in the Darling Range electorate. According to the boundaries at the time and also taking into account the adjustments in the boundaries as they apply today, although it is not a large majority about 50.23 per cent of people voted in favour of daylight saving at the last referendum. I will quote the rounded figures on a polling booth basis of the percentage of voters who were in favour of daylight saving. This is for the benefit of those in my electorate who may read *Hansard* or see these comments in the future. At Carmel, the figure was 39 per cent in favour; Gooseberry Hill, 54 per cent; Kalamunda Primary School, 46 per cent; Kalamunda Senior High School, 50.4 per cent; Falls Road Primary School, Lesmurdie, 52 per cent; Lesmurdie Primary School, 54 per cent; Pickering Brook; 28 per cent; Walliston, 48 per cent; Forrestfield Primary School, 51 per cent;

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Forrestfield Senior High School, 53 per cent; Maida Vale, 46 per cent; and Wattle Grove, 40 per cent. A lot of urbanisation has taken place in the Wattle Grove area over the past three or four years and I suspect that, if the vote were held today, there would be a greater proportion in favour in that area. In Karragullen, the figure in favour was 22 per cent, and in Roleystone it was 53 per cent. All those figures add up to a slight majority in favour of daylight saving in the electorate of Darling Range, and I am mindful of that.

There is an argument to not advance the clocks by a full hour in Western Australia, but rather to advance them by half an hour, bearing in mind that the majority of the population in Western Australia lives along the west coast and in the south west of the state. In Perth, for example, we have in effect 16 minutes of daylight saving all year round, given that Perth is about four degrees to the west of the 120-degree longitude, which determines which time zone we are in. That means that Kalgoorlie, which is slightly to the east of that longitude, has a negative amount of daylight saving on a yearly basis without making the change proposed in this legislation. Perth has effectively 16 minutes of daylight saving all year round. That compares with Sydney on the east coast, which, because it is about one degree to the east of the 150-degree longitude, effectively has minus four minutes of daylight saving without adjusting the clocks. There is an argument that Western Australia should adjust its clocks by half an hour rather than the full hour, but that would probably be somewhat more complicated, and some people would probably find it difficult to adapt. However, South Australia and the Northern Territory both live with that situation in comparison with the east coast. I do not propose to move any amendment to that effect, but I make the observation that there is perhaps an argument for a half-hour change if people are unhappy about a full hour in the future. With those comments, I support this bill.

MR R.C. KUCERA (Yokine) [4.53 pm]: I will speak briefly on the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. In all the time that I have been in Parliament, there has not been a subject, other than the member for Cottesloe's canal, that has generated so much interest.

Ms S.E. Walker: Don't be nasty.

Mr R.C. KUCERA: I am not being nasty. I had a discussion with the member for Cottesloe before the debate started. The comment I was going to make was that, whereas his issue was a barbecue stopper, this one is probably a barbecue starter. I was a resident of this state during the time of the previous three referendums. I grew up with daylight saving in the United Kingdom, as did the member for Hillarys. We never had any problems with putting children to sleep. My cousin is visiting from Wales at the moment, and she recalled that back in those days our mothers used to put blankets up at the windows to make sure the light did not come in, if there was ever a problem. I was in England earlier this year, in the summer, and even without daylight saving it does not get dark there until nine or 10 o'clock at night anyway, so daylight saving simply means that the twilight goes on until about 11 o'clock at night. I was also in Denmark earlier this year, where there is no darkness during the summer, and I did not see any bleary-eyed kids running around.

One of the fundamental changes that have happened throughout Australia in recent years came home to me two weeks ago when I was in Tasmania. Over the past 40 to 50 years we have changed from an agrarian community to a community that is driven by technology and business; the vast majority of people are not involved in farming. My understanding is that only three per cent of the total population is now involved in farming. There has also been a fundamental shift of people from the country into the cities, which has changed their lifestyles, and this issue is all about lifestyles. My sister lives in Port Hedland and does not support daylight saving for various reasons. Port Hedland is further north, near the tropics. She has her views and I respect them. The Leader of the National Party talked about people considering themselves progressive and denigrating other people over this issue. I do not think Mr De Landgraft of the Western Australian Farmers Federation did himself any favours the other day by referring to everybody in the city as the "chattering classes". I hope that he said it in jest, because I do not think this issue should drive a wedge between the country and the city. It is about lifestyle, and that is why I am pleased to support the members for Ballajura and Kalgoorlie on this private member's bill.

I grew up with daylight saving, and we always had long twilights. I spent almost my entire 35 years of working life as a shift worker. All shift workers realise that they do not work by the clock, but by the hours. That has been a fundamental shift. Fifty years ago we worked by a solar clock in this country. Today we work by the world clock, whether we like it or not. I was pleased to hear the member for Victoria Park raise the issues about

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

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Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

Asia. Having made many trips to Asia either for business or pleasure, I know that Asia has a split day. Most Asian countries still respect the old siesta, and very little work is done, even in our close neighbours like Indonesia, during the heat of the day. However, anybody who has been to Asia, particularly to Bangkok, will realise that life goes on 24 hours a day. Nobody cares what the clock says; people just work on. It will be exactly the same when daylight saving is introduced here. Our Asian partners will respect that.

I was in Tasmania two weeks ago for the first time since 1991 to attend a conference, and the change there since the introduction of daylight saving, particularly in the tourism industry in the area of Salamanca, is quite amazing. The change in the businesses and business people is amazing. Tasmania is a darn sight colder than Western Australia, but the people were still outside in the evening. Hobart and Launceston have changed dramatically since the introduction of daylight saving. Tasmania still has a largely agrarian community. It has a much larger proportion of farmers than in Western Australia, but the change resulting from daylight saving is amazing, and I did not hear anybody speaking out against it. On the contrary, people were quite bemused when I said that the debate had arisen in Western Australia, and that Western Australia had not introduced daylight saving already, particularly at a time when we are beginning to depend on tourism as one of our major industries.

Like the member for Ballajura, I do not necessarily support a referendum on this issue. I suppose that I have grown up making command decisions all my life. Parliament has a right to make decisions on issues in this state. I am not sure that the referendum will do anything other than raise this issue all over again in three years' time. Parliament has an executive right to make decisions, although I respect the call for a referendum.

I will touch very quickly on what is happening in my electorate. Even though I had received 4 602 e-mails by lunchtime today, I have not taken those into specific account as a guide to the view of my own electorate. However, I have counted the phone calls and the personal contacts that I have received on this issue. I have a very old electorate, demographically. I have many aged care centres in my electorate. By and large, everybody over the age of 65 or 70 seems to be opposed to the legislation. However, they do not advance any logical views, other than that it will change their way of life. I cannot see that it will essentially. However, people under that age, such as my own children, are delighted with the idea. My son works very hard as a lawyer, and puts in long hours. He is more than happy to get home and have an hour's daylight to take out his children.

I am very supportive of this bill, as is my electorate. More than 80 countries have daylight saving. There is presently a lot of information on daylight saving on the Internet, if members can access it through their computer systems. As members know, my electorate is largely comprised of members of the Jewish community. Some 7 000 members of the Jewish community are split between my electorate and the member for Ballajura's electorate. When I was at Carmel School this morning, the rabbi told me that daylight saving was an excellent idea because he would not have to start until an hour later on Fridays and could sleep in for an hour on Saturday mornings. He also said that it would not bother him because he will have to be at the synagogue anyway. He was quite supportive of it. The Jewish community, who, by and large, are businessmen and businesswomen, very much support this bill. As I said, based on the phone calls and personal contacts I have had, I estimate that the ratio of support is about 60 to 40 in favour. That is probably less than other electorates because of the age of the constituents.

Previous daylight savings trials were conducted for only one summer, which was an insufficient time. One swallow does not make a summer. Studies on energy savings during daylight saving hours have been conducted in the United States and in California in particular, which shares a similar climate to Western Australia. Studies were done into the amount of oil consumed when daylight saving was first introduced in the 1970s. The studies have been updated and the most recent study was conducted in 2006. The US Department of Transportation reported that it saved the equivalent in energy of 10 000 barrels of oil per day during the observance of daylight saving, particularly in March and April. A total of 600 000 barrels was estimated to have been saved in each of the two years that daylight saving was first introduced. Studies by the California Energy Commission confirm that about one per cent of energy usage per day is saved when daylight saving is in place.

There is no doubt that daylight saving saves lives and prevents travel injuries. When people drive home in daylight, it changes the dynamic of driving. People tend to use public transport more during daylight hours. When it gets dark, fewer people use public transport. The types of offences that would ordinarily occur on public transport tend not to happen during daylight saving hours because more people use such transport.

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When I was in the police service, I saw evidence that daylight saving prevented crime. A range of petty crimes occur in the evenings when groups of young people roam around wanting to do stupid and antisocial things. They tend not to do those things when it is daylight and they can be seen. There is a change in the dynamics in the crime statistics during daylight saving hours. I am interested to see whether the Commissioner of Police will take note of this trial and measures those figures, particularly with regard to traffic and crime. Finally - the Whip is looking at me sideways - I will quote one of the greatest proponents of daylight saving - Winston Churchill. Just after the war he said -

An extra yawn one morning in the springtime, an extra snooze one night in the autumn is all that we ask in return for dazzling gifts. We borrow an hour one night in April; we pay it back with golden interest five months later.

So sayest Winston Churchill.

DR E. CONSTABLE (Churchlands) [5.03 pm]: I support this bill. I recall arriving in Western Australia in February 1975. One of the first things I had to do in March was vote in a referendum on daylight saving. I thought that that was one of the oddest things I had to do. I had lived in Boston in the United States for five years and had enjoyed daylight saving and I could not understand why Western Australia did not have it. This is not the type of issue upon which we should have a referendum. However, given that three referenda have been held on the issue, we are locked into this strange business of holding a referendum on daylight saving. It would be more appropriate to hold a referendum on many other issues that we deal with other than daylight saving.

Like other members, I have received many phone calls and masses of e-mails from my constituents and from people from across the state. One person stated that nobody in my electorate wanted it. I thought I should check to see what had happened in the previous referenda because that is not the impression I have been getting from the people I have spoken to. I looked over the results of the past three referenda and examined the three districts in the North Metropolitan Region: Cottesloe, Floreat and Scarborough. The current seat of Churchlands takes in part of the old Floreat electorate and part of the old Scarborough electorate. I was quite pleased to find out that in the first referendum, 55.37 per cent of people in the electorate of Floreat and 54.65 per cent of people in the electorate of Scarborough voted in favour of daylight saving. Something funny happened in April 1984 because the number of those who voted in favour of daylight saving reduced to 50.9 and 50.5 per cent respectively. That is still just over 50 per cent. In April 1992, the number in favour increased to 52.85 per cent in Floreat and 53.72 per cent in Scarborough. My vote on this bill today will be consistent with the history of the voting on daylight saving in the area I now represent.

I have also had some fun in the past two or three weeks by asking for a show of hands on this matter at the sporting clubs and with other groups I have met. It was not surprising when at the opening of the tennis season I asked those who were in favour of daylight saving to raise their hands and 70 or 75 per cent of people raised their hands. I asked the same question when I spoke at the Cambridge Rotary Club last week. About 50 of the rotary club members were there and they had an average age well into their 60s, and so I thought that I might get a different response. However, members might be surprised to learn that about 80 per cent of hands among that group went up in favour of daylight saving. Although some quite angry people who are not in favour of it have phoned my office, most of the information coming through to my office is that the majority of people support it. If this bill is passed in the Legislative Council, I expect to see a similar result in my electorate.

I am pleased that a three-year trial of daylight saving will be conducted because that will give people a much better view of daylight saving and, therefore, they will make a much better judgment. I suspect that if people vote against daylight saving at the referendum, we may not see another referendum on the matter in my lifetime and it will be a long time before Western Australia would have it. It has been put to me that 20 per cent of the people who will vote on it have never had a chance to vote on a daylight saving referendum. Therefore, it is timely to have this debate and to give people a chance to have their say.

There are many good arguments for daylight saving and I will not go through all of them because many of those arguments have been mentioned already. However, two arguments are important to me. The first is it will be very worthwhile for many businesses in Western Australia to be only two hours behind the eastern states. For many years I have heard complaints by people that the three-hour time difference has a huge impact on business in this state. For that reason I support it. The second reason I support it is I believe that daylight saving enhances family life. At the beginning of this year my family stayed at a beach in Sydney for a week or so for

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the New Year. There is nothing nicer than seeing families out enjoying the beach at night. Daylight saving brings families together because they do more activities together in the summer. I was also fortunate to be in Croatia in July, which also has daylight saving. There is nothing nicer than seeing three generations of families walking around on a Friday or Saturday evening enjoying each other's company. That must be good for children and families. On that score alone those of us who are in favour of it should be encouraging people to think about it. The rigid view that children cannot be put to bed on time is too rigid these days. What does it matter if children go to bed an hour or two later during school holidays if they can enjoy being with their family and can do other things that they would not otherwise be able to do at other times of the year? For that reason, I support daylight saving.

I will finish with a comment that was made by a person in my electorate. This person said to me, "You know, this should be called the bacon saving bill, not the daylight saving bill, because it is saving the bacon of this government, which is in so much trouble on so many issues." I would quite like to move an amendment to the bill that the title be changed to the bacon saving bill!

MR C.J. BARNETT (Cottesloe) [5.10 pm]: I am pleased to make some comments on the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. I state from the outset that I will be voting in favour of the bill. I think most members would agree that daylight saving is primarily a personal preference, lifestyle issue. As we have all discovered, everyone has an opinion on daylight saving. That opinion is generally strongly held. That opinion divides communities. It also divides families. I live in a household that is divided on the issue of daylight saving. Although I am not a passionate supporter of daylight saving, I support it. However, my dear wife is a passionate opponent of daylight saving. I suspect I will pay some price for the position I have adopted on this bill. There are already ominous signs. This morning we purchased a new airconditioner. That was the first direct cost of daylight saving to me! Also, I have been informed that in summer, when I tend to come inside to watch the six o'clock news, as many people do, that the door will be locked, and I will have to stay outside for that extra hour of sunshine and heat! I am sure I will be experiencing some downsides of daylight saving! However, I remain committed to supporting it.

Before I became a member of this Parliament in 1990 I was, as most members would know, the chief executive of the WA Chamber of Commerce and Industry. As a business organisation the chamber was, of course, strongly pro daylight saving. During the late 1980s I became involved in the public and media debate as advocating the case for daylight saving. The Liberal Party at the time generally had an anti daylight saving approach. After I had been elected to Parliament I was asked by the media whether I would be maintaining my support for daylight saving, and I said I would. I had been a member of Parliament for only a number of weeks when a former upper house member, Hon David Wordsworth, announced in our party room that he was planning to do a bit of a trip through the eastern wheatbelt, and did anyone want to join him. I did not know David Wordsworth at all, but I thought: that sounds like fun; I am a new member, so I might as well get out there and see what it is like in country areas. That was a three-day, three-night trip. In the first town that we visited - it was probably in the member for Merredin's electorate - a dinner had been arranged at a hotel, and about 15 farmers turned up. It was all very civilised, until about nine o'clock when one of them said to me, "Aren't you the bloke who wants daylight saving?" When I said, "Yes, I am", he immediately started presenting the arguments against daylight saving. The evening finished about three hours later, and I was under attack the whole time! On the second night, exactly the same thing happened. On the third night, when we were in yet another town - it might well have been Merredin - David told me that another group of farmers were coming to dinner. By this time I knew David fairly well, so I said to him, "To have me on this trip must be an absolute disaster for you electorally, because everyone hates me. Everyone hates the idea of daylight saving. All we are getting is this abuse every night." He said to me, "Colin, you still have a lot to learn about politics. What I am doing is phoning ahead and saying I have that bloke who wants daylight saving with me; do you want to come and meet him at the pub?" He had been calling all the farmers, who had been out on their tractors all day, and he had been using that to his advantage!

We are all aware of the figures on this issue. When I became the member for Cottesloe, there was a significant elderly population in the electorate. There still is. However, the demographic of the electorate is changing. There are now many more young families in Cottesloe. In the 1975 referendum, 52.1 per cent of the voters in Cottesloe voted for daylight saving. In 1984, 48 per cent voted against daylight saving. In 1992 they were split down the middle, with 49.5 per cent voting yes. I suspect from the feedback to my electorate office - the

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genuine feedback; not the multiple e-mails that we have been receiving - from local people who have either phoned and left messages or spoken to me or one of my staff, that the opinion is running in favour of daylight saving by about three to two.

Daylight saving is largely a personal preference. However, some very good arguments have been put in favour of daylight saving. The member for Yokine referred to how daylight saving will benefit the tourism and hospitality industries. I hope it will help to revitalise part of the Cottesloe beachfront area, because it certainly needs to be revitalised.

Mr E.S. Ripper: I will do my bit!

Mr C.J. BARNETT: The Treasurer does do his bit! He is most unpopular with the locals, I might say!

The member for Churchlands made some valid points. I agree that daylight saving will be good for families, particularly young families where the father may be working in the city as a young professional, as are many people in my electorate, and wants to take greater responsibility for his children on a day-to-day basis. Daylight saving will allow families to engage in activities in the evening such as going to the beach, playing a game of tennis, going for a walk or playing in the park. I am sure that will be evident during the trial period. It will clearly be an advantage for businesses to have less of a time gap between this state and the eastern states.

Many arguments have also been put against daylight saving. It is true, as the member for Yokine has said, that older people tend not to like daylight saving. Country people generally do not like daylight saving either. One very valid argument in country areas is that children will be travelling to and from school in the heat of the day. I hope the Minister for Education and Training and her department will give schools the option of changing their opening and closing times if that is the wish of the school community.

Mr R.C. Kucera: They already do that in the Pilbara.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Yes. It should be left up the school and the local community to operate the school an hour later if that is the way they want to go. I see no difficulty in doing that.

I believe daylight saving is long overdue and will be strongly endorsed. As other members have said, despite the history of this issue, I do not believe we should commit this state to a referendum at this stage. Many of the comments that I have received from people, both in favour of daylight saving and against daylight saving, have been along the lines, "Well, whichever way you go, just make a decision and get on with it." There is a strong feeling in the community about that. We are elected to make decisions. If we can make decisions about such contentious and important issues as abortion, which are difficult issues for many members of this house, surely we can make a decision on daylight saving. A preferable way of proceeding would have been to require that after the three-year trial, the government of the day - whichever government that might be - conduct a review. The options would then be: if there is strong support, continue with daylight saving; if there is overwhelming opposition, abandon it; if there is doubt and no clear position, consider conducting a referendum. I do not believe we should commit this state to a referendum three years out. That will simply perpetuate the debate. The majority of people, whether they like daylight saving or not, want a decision to be made so that we can move on to the next issue. I will be supporting daylight saving, on behalf of the majority view of my constituents in the electorate of Cottesloe.

MR E.S. RIPPER (Belmont - Deputy Premier) [5.17 pm]: I have been asked by the Premier to present the government position on the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. I confirm that the government supports the bill. Government members will vote in support of the details of the model contained in the bill. That means that if any decision needs to be made about, for example, the length of the trial, or the referendum, government members will vote for the three-year trial and for the referendum as part of the model. However, the government and the State Parliamentary Labor Party are cognisant of the fact that this issue is unusual in that three referendums have been held, and on three occasions the majority of the public has voted that daylight saving not proceed. Consequently, the government and the State Parliamentary Labor Party have decided that Labor members will be given a free vote on the question of whether there should be daylight saving. Therefore, on both the second and third readings of the bill, members of the State Parliamentary Labor Party will be given a free vote. However, during consideration in detail, members will vote along party lines for the model that is proposed in the bill.

Extract from *Hansard*

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

p7886b-7952a

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

I appreciate the comments made by the member for Churchlands about family life. I remember very strongly the last daylight saving trial, which occurred when I was a minister in the Lawrence government. The daylight saving trial gave me an opportunity, despite a heavy workload, to spend time with my young sons; indeed, it improved my family life. That trial confirmed my support for daylight saving. I have always voted for daylight saving and I intend to exercise my vote for daylight saving on this occasion. Daylight saving is an advantage for family life if people are prepared to take full advantage of the opportunity that it offers. Daylight saving will improve the lifestyle of Western Australians. Daylight saving is not only important for those reasons; it is also symbolically important, because we are trying to modernise Western Australia. We want this state to be a more lively, entertaining and interesting place in which to live, work and invest. Liquor reform and daylight saving are part of the overall project to modernise Western Australia. To a certain extent, daylight saving has a symbolic importance beyond its operational importance for that modernising project. If we endorse daylight saving this Parliament and government will send a message to the rest of the country and the world that Western Australia is a modern, progressive place that welcomes newcomers and those who want to take advantage of a fantastic climate and lifestyle. This legislation is part of the project that will make Western Australia more attractive to scientists, researchers, companies that are seeking locations to place their headquarters, tourists - as was mentioned by the member for Yokine - and students from other places. Daylight saving is an important part of developing Western Australia's social and economic future; it is a part of the project that will make Western Australia more modern, progressive, lively, attractive and interesting. There are lots of other things we need to do beyond introducing daylight saving and liquor reform to make Western Australia an attractive place.

Daylight saving will be good for business. I talk to many businesspeople in my role as Treasurer and the inconvenience they face in having to deal with multiple transactions with people in other states is something that, given the opportunity, they all talk about. If we want to make it easier for Western Australians to do business with the rest of the country, we ought to support daylight saving. It is also worth noting that we need to have more presence on the eastern seaboard. Those on the eastern seaboard must have a better understanding of our circumstances and of our growing importance in the nation. Better business communications with the eastern seaboard will help in that regard.

Because Western Australia has already had three referendums on this issue, the government and the state parliamentary Labor Party thought that it was important to support a further referendum at the conclusion of a three-year trial. That provision has been included in the bill. It is difficult to suggest that, with legitimacy, we can overturn three referendums without giving the community the opportunity of a fourth referendum. In considering the question of the legitimacy of Parliament introducing daylight saving, the government also has endorsed the concept of a free vote. The government is not applying party discipline to something that goes against what has happened in the referendums. We are allowing members to make their own decision on the question of daylight saving, albeit, we are asking them to support on a collective basis the details of the model that has been put before Parliament.

I have had a number of experiences with public opinion. My ministerial office has received approximately 3 500 e-mails overwhelmingly in support of daylight saving. The communications received by my electorate office suggest that the weight of opinion is running in a different way. I spoke to one of my electorate officers this afternoon and he advised me that the representations received by my electorate office are running at about eight to one against. When I was last in my electorate office late last week, I looked at the number of e-mails, telephone messages and letters in support of and opposed to daylight saving. I noticed that all those opposed to daylight saving appeared to be over 50 years of age and that all of those in support of daylight saving appeared to be under 50 years of age. That is an interesting division of community opinion.

Ms K. Hodson-Thomas: How did you calculate their age?

Mr E.S. RIPPER: I had information that was helpful to me in making that judgment.

I pay tribute to the member for Mindarie for the role he played in kicking off this debate. Members know that the member for Mindarie is a forceful and vigorous advocate for the needs of his electorate and the opinions of his electors. He does not confine his advocacy to the chamber of this house. He engages in much behind-the-scenes advocacy and personal persuasion to achieve the ends sought by his constituents. He has been very persuasive with his parliamentary colleagues, particularly the member for Ballajura and other members on this

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side of the house. When daylight saving is approved by this Parliament, the electors of Mindarie should know that their member was instrumental in achieving that outcome.

I thank the member for Ballajura for taking a punt and going public with the proposed legislation. I also thank the member for Kalgoorlie, who has been a passionate supporter of daylight saving since he was elected to Parliament. That the members for Kalgoorlie and Ballajura got together and agreed on one bill being debated in this house so that we do not have the confusion that would arise if we were to proceed with the two bills that have come before us is a good demonstration of what can happen in Parliament. The member for Kalgoorlie took a private survey early in his career as a member of this Parliament. At that stage he determined privately that there was majority support for daylight saving within Parliament. Clearly, he has been working on this project for a long time.

I thank the members for Mindarie, Ballajura and Kalgoorlie. I very much hope that the Parliament as a whole votes for daylight saving. It will be good for family life and for business, and it will be good for Western Australia as a state. It will position us to achieve the type of economy and society that we want. I commend the member for Kalgoorlie's bill to the house. I hope as many members as possible in this and the other chamber vote for the bill.

MR T.G. STEPHENS (Central Kimberley-Pilbara) [5.30 pm]: This bill illustrates one of the challenges of a Parliament such as ours and that is how to legislate and respond adequately to the needs of a state as vast as ours with such divergent interests and circumstances. It is something that is done with difficulty. That has been illustrated many times in my parliamentary career, not least in relation to alcohol reform legislation. Freeing-up of the alcohol laws has been very much needed in metropolitan Perth and for the revitalisation of the tourism industry. At the same time, changing the laws plays absolute havoc with regional communities which have a particular demographic and profile because the freed-up flow of alcohol can destroy a whole town.

Likewise with this legislation; in a state as vast as ours and with sections of it so far to the east and north and the small spread of the population a little to the south, one can see that it is hard to get legislation relating to time zones that will meet the needs of the whole state. The two referendums with which I am most familiar are, firstly, the one during the Lawrence government, which was also on the day of the Ashburton by-election, which was brought about by the death of the then sitting member. I remember it pretty well; the current Speaker was elected to the Parliament. The daylight saving referendum went down the drain in a big way in 1992. That referendum defeat was no more pronounced anywhere in the state than in the north west. In parts of my old electorate, which I had represented for a long time, very few centres voted for daylight saving. The only centre in the north west in which any number voted for daylight saving was Kununurra. They voted for daylight saving with good reason, being so close to the Northern Territory border. If they were faced with the choice of voting for the abolition of Western Standard Time and the application of Central Standard Time to themselves, they would prefer the latter. I suspect that it is still the preferred view. I cannot predict what will happen when there is a referendum on this question, if the legislation passes through the Parliament, but I would not be surprised if they opposed the question that will be put to them: do they support daylight saving by moving the clock forward one hour? They probably would prefer to join the Northern Territory and South Australia on Central Standard Time rather than be subjected to a time clock that beats to the drum of metropolitan Perth.

Mr A.D. McRae: In the same way that Broken Hill is tied not to Sydney time -

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: To South Australia. They have the same set of circumstances. That is the nature of a state like ours when it comes to legislating for time zones. It lands with uneven effect on communities that have different ways of working. I think the debate that comes naturally from the agricultural sector and those sections of the community that work to the solar clock is that their circumstances are different from those of metropolitan Perth. They are people who work from dawn to dusk. It is a different set of circumstances from those who are not faced with that same time demand. The increasingly dominant population of my electorate are those who have a 12-hour shift. I have tried to analyse what I suspect is happening in the electorate, which was given an opportunity to vote on this question in 1992 before the 12-hour shift dominated the scene but was on its way into the industrial circumstances of the workers of the resource sector. I think the vote will reflect people who are exhausted from a 12-hour shift. They are most critical about anyone meddling with the clock any further. Their vote reflects their exhaustion after their experience with the 12-hour shift. In those circumstances they are

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expressing to me in large numbers - probably a majority of people - their opposition to the concept of daylight saving. As I try to delve into what they are saying -

Mr M.J. Birney: Will you take an interjection? The 12-hour shift is the very argument that supports daylight saving.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: I understand the member's case but the argument that has been put to me by people who are doing a 12-hour shift in the north west, as opposed to the member's experience in the goldfields, is that they feel exhausted by the prospect of anyone meddling with their working experience. I sense a resistance to this proposal based on their experience. I think it is different partly because of the reality of our climate. Members should picture a work force that comes home utterly exhausted at the end of a 12-hour shift into a climate that is much hotter in the afternoon and at night than that in the goldfields.

Mr M.J. Birney: It gets pretty damn hot in the goldfields.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: It is not a shared climatic circumstance. I am not going to pretend that this is entirely rational. It is not a matter of people going through an analysis of the situation and reaching a rational response to the proposal. It just simply is their response. They respond out of their circumstances, and by and large their working experience produces exhaustion and resistance to the concept of change.

Mr M.J. Birney: How many shift workers have expressed those views to you?

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Leaving aside the 3 000-odd e-mails I have received - I could not find in the e-mail river any from people within my electorate. I have been scanning through them as best I can. By and large, I believe they are not people from my electorate who are involved in this electronic campaign.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: What average of those people would e-mail you and me?

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: I do not mind people doing it.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: It collapses my whole office.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: I do not mind.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: I've got one electorate to look after.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: It is a historic thing; it is unprecedented campaigning in my experience of this place. In 25 years in Parliament I have never seen us experiencing this type of electronic campaign which -

Mr G. Woodhams: Intimidation.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: No, no, it is not intimidation.

Mr G. Woodhams: Soft-headed modernism!

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Welcome to the modern world, member! Expect more of it and in big numbers. If anything, those people who are organising our Internet system will need to devise methods for us to conduct electronic business while simultaneously having the opportunity, off to the side, to receive this type of lobbying. I expect we will get more of it.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Just dump it. Hit the dump button.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: That is 3 000 hit buttons to get that dump button. There is another way of doing it and most members have worked out how to do it. One puts it across into a discrete area of one's e-mail. One can see it there growing and every now and then when one wants to have a look, one can do so.

Mr M.J. Birney: You can also do something crazy like read them! How do you know if they are from your electorate if you do not read them?

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: I think I have been digressed!

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I want to get back to what I was saying. I do not mind people lobbying me on this question. As far as personal contact with people in my electorate goes, I would say about 100 people have contacted me and my rough guess is that they are 60:40 in my electorate against the proposal for daylight saving. Having said that, I sense that a majority of people have historically opposed daylight saving. I try to read between the lines and engage people in discussion to find out why they are opposed to it. People are not troubled by the proposal for daylight saving in reference to their working hours and their need for family time and the like, but by the reality of 12-hour shifts. That is the bigger problem they face as people, families and communities. The daylight saving proposal is causing them to experience a strong sense of anxiety. If there were a bill before the house that gave me the opportunity to ban the 12-hour shift, I would be very inclined to support it, because I believe that it destroys communities, family life and the opportunity for Western Australia to have a healthy society in which leisure time at the end of a working day should be part.

Mr J.E. McGrath: Like the Victorians, they are all healthy.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Does the member mean Victorians from Queen Victoria's time or -

Mr J.E. McGrath: The Victorians haven't won a flag for about eight years.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: I am not sure which set of Victorians the member is talking about when we are considering banning the 12-hour shift - those of Queen Victoria's time or those of the state of Victoria. Quite clearly, the 12-hour shift is having a very bad impact on people across the state. People in my electorate are exhausted. They work far too long in their daily lives and it is almost too much of a conundrum to respond to the opportunity that daylight saving represents. I have tried to tease through some of the arguments I have heard in the discussions that I have held with people who have raised the issue with me. Twelve-hour shifts are not the only issue. Many people, when weighing up their circumstances and the climate in which they operate, would prefer to have more family time, an opportunity to spend more time with their youngsters in the early hours of the day before it gets too hot and before they go to work. There are people who structure their family time around that time of the day.

Mr M.P. Whitely: No-one plays with their kids in the morning.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: There are people in my part of the world who do exactly that for very good reasons. The family friendly time of the day is before people go to work or school. Whole families are up and about enjoying the only cool time of the day that is on offer in that climate.

Mr M.J. Birney: Most families find it hard to function in the early hours. They're too busy making lunches, clothing kids and doing things other than recreation.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Those early hours of the day operate in various ways for various families in various climates. Many families in the north west take advantage of the early hours of the morning to spend time with their families. People find it hard to grab family time at the end of the day when they do not have the advantage of the Fremantle doctor. It is not advantageous for many families to allocate time at the end of the day as their time. That is the time when people disappear inside their houses with the airconditioners on while waiting for the only relief that they get at the end of the day, which comes when the sun goes down. That is when people finally get relief from the heat that is on offer in many of the communities in the north west.

Mr R.C. Kucera: I am not arguing against you; I appreciate your point of view, but haven't they brought the school starting time forward an hour?

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Some schools have but not all of them. I am arguing that it is hard to legislate on any issue, whether it is daylight saving or alcohol laws. We are endeavouring to position a time clock to meet the needs of all Western Australians. That is difficult because people move to the beats of different drums depending on the circumstances that apply to them in the town in which they live, the region of which they are part, the nature of their work force or the nature of the way they respond to their set of working circumstances.

Having said all that, and although I detect that there is a majority in my electorate that is opposed to the proposition, I will support this bill.

Several members interjected.

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Mr T.G. STEPHENS: I will tell members my logic. Actually, they do not want the logic; they just want the vote. Blow the logic! The reason I support this bill is that I believe that daylight saving will meet the needs of an overwhelming majority of the community of Western Australia. I believe that the passage of this bill, with its ensuing referendum, will create for that majority the chance to have a say on daylight saving once more. I anticipate a no vote in my part of the world. I believe that will come not because there is anything fundamentally wrong with daylight saving but because there are other fundamentals within our community that should be attacked instead.

Mr G. Woodhams: Why don't you represent your electors?

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: The task that the member will find in this job is to not only -

Mr G. Woodhams: Why don't you represent your electors?

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: I am saying to the member that my task is to be a representative as well as to represent. In that task of being a representative, interaction goes on between the roles of being the mirror image and to be in dialogue with the electorate.

Mr D.T. Redman: There's also a free vote, which gives you the opportunity to make a choice.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: It gives me an opportunity as a representative to respond with the creativeness of being that, not simply to be -

Mr M.W. Trenorden: What a load of rubbish!

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: It is absolute truth and the member knows it is the truth.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: I represent my electorate - end of story.

Several members interjected.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: Mr Acting Speaker, if I could get a word in, I would appreciate it.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr S.C. Thomas): I call to order the members for Victoria Park and Avon.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: There is a huge body of literature on exactly what the role of the representative is. It is not simply to be the mirror image of the current view within the electorate that a member is elected to represent but to respond in dialogue with that community and to take leadership roles on issues. For instance, on the question of Aboriginal affairs, I have never for a moment thought that I reflected the majority viewpoint of my electorate historically or currently. I have always accepted the responsibility that comes with being a representative of an area such as mine to enter into robust, creative dialogue with the community that I represent and to lead that community to a more creative and intelligent response to the challenges facing the Aboriginal people, rather than to slavishly accept the current viewpoint within a community. I accept the role of having strong and robust dialogue with the community about issues when I vote on questions before the house. For instance, I do not believe that the view that I took on the abortion debate reflects the majority viewpoint of the Western Australian community. Having said that, it is my viewpoint and I accept it as my responsibility to vote the way I wish on some questions.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Very American of you.

Mr T.G. STEPHENS: It is not American; it is the view of Edmund Burke. When I last looked at his pedigree, I did not think he was an American. If we look at what Edmund Burke had to say about the role of the representative, we will see the argument and the philosophy that I have articulated before the house. I think better people have articulated that view than Edmund Burke.

Finally, bills such as this give people the chance to have their say, but there are some fundamentals that need to be fixed for communities like my own in the north west. They include fixing up the disease of the spread of 12-hour rosters, the long rosters that see people working up to 14 days straight. These hideously inhuman work patterns and practices have emerged in the time I have been in Parliament. There is something fundamentally wrong with a built environment that does not respond to the climate in which people are living.

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

p7886b-7952a

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

MR J.E. McGRATH (South Perth) [5.49 pm]: I will not be saying much on this subject. I advise the house that I will support the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. It has been a very difficult decision for me to make. About 12 months ago, when the member for Kalgoorlie was the Leader of the Opposition, I discussed daylight saving with him. The member for Kalgoorlie advised me that I should float the idea. I said that I would look at it because I felt it was something that needed to be on the agenda. I mentioned it to somebody from the *Sunday Times* who phoned me about something else. I said that I would raise it in the party room. There was one paragraph in a general story about daylight saving in the *Sunday Times* to the effect that the member for South Perth said he would put the issue of daylight saving on the party room's agenda. The first call to my electorate office on the following Monday morning was someone ringing to "tell Mr McGrath that if he goes for daylight saving, it will be political suicide". I detected that there was a hard core of people in South Perth who did not want daylight saving. I spoke to people in the electorate from various groups. I remember one church group that had about 32 people. I asked them what they thought about daylight saving. I conducted a straw poll and the result was about 21 to 11 against. I thought that, as such, my electorate did not want daylight saving. I must admit that, in the past couple of weeks, I have been getting the feeling that the pendulum is moving a bit. South Perth, like every other electorate, has had three referenda on daylight saving. Interestingly enough, the first time the people of South Perth voted in favour of daylight saving. In 1975 the vote was 6 555 in favour and 6 393 against. The next two referenda in 1984 and 1992 saw the people of South Perth vote against daylight saving. On both occasions it was by a very narrow margin.

With regard to this bill, we must consider the issue on its merits. We must accept that we have not had a trial of daylight saving for 15 years. A lot of young people in my electorate did not have the opportunity to vote at the last referendum. They are entitled to that vote. I will certainly support a trial period followed by a referendum.

As I moved around my electorate, some people told me that it was not a big issue for them in their lives at the moment. They do not care one way or the other. They said that if it comes in they will accept it, but if it does not, it will not worry them. However, there is a group that is very gung-ho in favour of daylight saving. The group has contacted my office and told me that we have to get with it. It is a group of younger people with young families. They want to get into the modern world. Some of them are in business, and it is difficult for them to deal with the eastern states because of the three-hour time difference. There is also another group of people who are stridently opposed to daylight saving. They are usually representative of the older people in the electorate.

Some people have said to me that a trial of three years is too long. They ask whether we need three years and they suggest that the rest of this summer and next summer is enough. When the referendum is held, it will be the swinging voters, as I refer to them, who will decide. They do not really care one way or the other at the moment because this is not a huge issue in their lives. I have never been a huge fan of daylight saving, although I know it is something we should look at if we want to be progressive as a state. I have always felt that we get a good spread of daylight hours - that we get them in the right mix. There is still plenty of daylight in the middle of summer later in the day. There will be some real issues for some people. Putting clocks forward will make the day seem hotter for longer. People look forward to the cool of the night, especially after a hot day. They look forward to the darkness that makes the evening a bit cooler and more comfortable.

I have spoken to some older people in my electorate just as other members have in their electorates. Some older people have surprised us by saying that they are in favour of daylight saving. I also spoke to a young girl the other day who was visiting Parliament with a group of year 11 students from Penrhos College. They were sitting in the courtyard. I asked the group about daylight saving and most of the girls were unsure. The girl in question was very much against it. She said that she did not like it and did not want it. I asked her why she said that. She said that she grew up in Sydney and had experienced it there. She did not like it. It is a personal thing. It is about people's lifestyles and what they want from life. I spoke to a person at a function the other night who had lived a long time in Canberra. He had a young family and he thought that daylight saving was quite unsuitable for them. He did not like it. As I said, I think those people are in the minority.

Some people in my constituency might be considered cynics for saying that this bill is a very timely diversion. It is probably the greatest political diversion since that portrayed in the very well known movie *Wag the Dog*. The government is under all kinds of pressure over the performance of ministers and departments but what are we debating on the day on which a top government chief executive officer has resigned? We are debating daylight

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saving! People are asking why we are not dealing with issues that are really important to them such as education, health, child care and stamp duty. I know that the member for Ballajura has said that he is very passionate about daylight saving. I wondered whether he has always been so passionate because the member for Kalgoorlie said the other day in Parliament that he had raised this issue early in his political career when he first canvassed his electorate. I did a search on Google to find out how many times the member for Ballajura has mentioned daylight saving since he became a member of this place in 2001. Do members know how many times he has raised it? None. He never mentioned it until recently. The sceptic in me is asking what suddenly made the member for Ballajura a champion of daylight saving.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Did you hear my second reading speech?

Mr J.E. McGRATH: The member got into Parliament in 2001 and we have not heard him mention daylight saving in all that time.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Did you hear my second reading speech?

Mr J.E. McGRATH: Until the member's second reading speech, he had never mentioned daylight saving.

Like some other members, I am disappointed that we have not had enough time to conduct polls in our electorates. I know that for some members on the other side, the forms are still at the printer's - they have not even gone out to the electorate. It is a pity that we have to vote on this before we can do a proper poll of our electorates. The poll in my electorate is about two to one; that is, 66 per cent of people are in favour of daylight saving and about 33 per cent are not. Like other members, I will support the bill.

Mr R.C. Kucera: As the Treasurer said, we are voting for the trial.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: Yes, we are voting for the trial and the referendum.

Some people have mentioned some way-out reasons we should have daylight saving and why we should not. I raised the point before about obesity. Somebody claimed that daylight saving will help reduce obesity. There are a lot of obese people in Sydney and Melbourne. Victoria is hardly the sporting capital of the world when it comes to success in footy and cricket in the years since it has had daylight saving. I am also thinking of country kids. Peter Beattie, the Premier of Queensland, has set an example in this regard. He said that he does not want to bring in daylight saving although it would be popular with people who live in the south east of Queensland around Brisbane. He knows that Queensland is a big and diverse state. He does not want to bring in something that will disaffect people who live in the north of his state.

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

Mr J.E. McGRATH: No, I am voting for the people of South Perth. The introduction of daylight saving will disaffect some people. It would be a pity if it were introduced through a referendum with only 52 per cent of people in favour and 48 per cent against or something like that. Maybe the e-mails that members have been receiving indicate that there will be a stronger vote when the referendum is held. I would prefer to see a strong vote in favour.

Sitting suspended from 6.00 to 7.00 pm

Mr J.E. McGRATH: I have already informed the Premier, who has just entered the chamber, that I will not be long in concluding my remarks on this bill, because I believe he wants to make a contribution. I will be very interested to hear what he has to say on this issue. I know that, as the leader of the state, he was a bit lukewarm on daylight saving. He said it was not really an issue. That is the point many members have been making, but all of a sudden it has become a snowball that is growing bigger and bigger and we have all been enveloped in the euphoria about daylight saving. As members of Parliament, we must now address the issue.

As I said earlier, the polling that I have been able to carry out indicates that the electors of South Perth are about two to one in favour of daylight saving, so I am supporting the people of my electorate. I would have liked a little more time to do a more comprehensive poll. My electors are saying that they support a trial, but they think the final decision should be made by the people. As has been pointed out by other members, historically, this has been done by way of referendum, so we must allow the people of Western Australia to have that vote. There has been some conjecture about whether we need a trial period of three years, or whether two years would be a better trial period, but I am fairly comfortable with whatever is decided by the Parliament.

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I will mention one thing on behalf of country people. I feel for country members in this regard. I referred earlier to Peter Beattie, the Premier of Queensland. A large number of people live in Brisbane, and they would be quite happy for daylight saving to be introduced there. However, Peter Beattie has said that he does not want to be the Premier who disadvantages the whole state. Queensland is a big state, very much like Western Australia. In the north of Queensland people are opposed to daylight saving. Peter Beattie does not want to be the Premier who disadvantages the rest of the state for a particular population pocket. Admittedly, Queensland does not have the same problems as Western Australia has because its time differential in summer is only one hour. It does not suffer from the two-hour time difference Western Australia has to put up with all year round.

One of my constituents, who lives in my street, is a man by the name of Frank McGill, whom many people will know as a merino breeder. He is a very well-known farmer. I knocked on his door and asked him why country people do not like daylight saving. He said that his main issue was that he had children growing up when one of the trials was done. The children had to get on a bus at 7.30 in the morning and travel for an hour to school. When daylight saving was introduced, it was the equivalent of getting up at 6.30 am. He said that he could not get the children out of bed. That was one of his problems. I accept that, and that is what makes the decision a little bit more difficult for us as members of Parliament. We do not want to disadvantage a large section of the community on an issue about which people are so passionate. The only fair way this can be decided is by a referendum, so I will support the bill.

MR A.J. CARPENTER (Willagee - Premier) [7.05 pm]: I support the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. This is not an issue that I would have ranked as high priority. As a member of Parliament and a minister, I did not have the issue raised with me, and I would not have pursued it. However, it has come before the Parliament as a bill co-sponsored by the members for Kalgoorlie and Ballajura. Therefore, it is an issue that Parliament must deal with. I support the bill because it provides all people in Western Australia with a trial period that is long enough to dispel any dispute about whether people have had time to adjust to daylight saving. A three-year trial will dispel any dispute about that. The trial period will be followed by a referendum, which will give the people of the state a chance to exercise their vote and choose whether they want to see daylight saving permanently embedded as part of our way of life.

I pay tribute to the member for Mindarie, who has vigorously pursued the issue of daylight saving both in his electorate and more broadly. He has been largely responsible for generating some of the public debate about daylight saving that has been running so strongly in Western Australia in recent months. Although he does not have his name attached as a co-sponsor to the bill, the member for Mindarie has played a large part in bringing this matter to the attention of the Parliament. I also congratulate the members for Kalgoorlie and Ballajura who brought together individual initiatives and amended them to eliminate the prospect of unnecessary division and descent into procedural chaos. They have presented a unified bill to the house.

There will be an opportunity, three years hence, for the people of Western Australia to exercise their vote at a referendum in which the daylight saving question will stand alone. That is much preferable to mixing the question in with a general election, which could cloud the issues. I support the bill on the basis that it is an issue that has come to the Parliament and must be dealt with. It is my expectation that, if it is not dealt with now it will come again next year and the year after that. I congratulate the two co-sponsors of the bill for reaching the point it has reached now.

Mr M.J. Birney: In all honesty, if the bill does not pass this time, I really think it will be lost forever. I cannot see us introducing it again; it is far too much strain.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: I do not think that that is the case. I think the issue would arise again. I hope that the bill is passed through the upper house in the form in which it passes this house, and I hope it does so expeditiously so that we have time to put the measure in place by the suggested start date, which is the first weekend in December. That is not very far into the future. I support the bill for those reasons. This issue has valid and invalid arguments on both sides. I like things the way they are, but that is a personal preference based on the lifestyle that I have now, in which the only free time I have is between 5.00 am and 6.00 am. However, I put that aside because there is a bigger interest to be pursued. The personal preference of other members is probably also against daylight saving, but they perhaps support this bill on the basis that it proposes a trial to be followed by a referendum. With those comments I support the bill.

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MR D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN (Leschenault) [7.09 pm]: I agree with at least one speaker who earlier referred to it as a bill to save the government's bacon. I do not think it is any coincidence that when a government is absolutely besieged by crisis upon crisis, this magical little elf called daylight saving suddenly appears. We need look only at the dilemma that the government has in the education portfolio; its minister, Hon Ljiljana Ravlich, is on the brink of being pushed out of office. There is crisis after crisis in the area of community development. There is a home ownership crisis in this state, with the Treasurer and the government arrogantly refusing to help reduce housing costs, particularly for first home buyers. There is arrogance in the government such as we have never seen before. Members need look only at the abysmal way in which the government handled the police pay claim and a number of other matters to understand what I mean. People must cop the bad news on the front page of *The West Australian* and on the commercial and ABC television stations day after day. However, miraculously, a former government backbencher, the member for Ballajura, and a current government backbencher, the member for Mindarie, are playing a key role in sneaking this one through to the keeper. Call me cynical, but I think the timing of this bill smacks of a whopping great big political red herring. We are talking about a bill that will take effect in just over a month. It is being rushed through Parliament at a rate of knots. There is no need to rush this bill through Parliament. That says to me that the government is looking for a political diversion.

Having said that, there are two other key issues. One issue is obviously daylight saving itself, and I will touch on that in a moment. However, the first issue is that this is a very sad reflection of how decisions are being made in Parliament at the moment on behalf of the people of Western Australia. Nothing but sad conclusions can be drawn from this in the public policy decision-making process. The member for Ballajura's initial bill sought to bring on daylight saving over the summer period for three years. He wanted to rush it in from 1 December 2006. He included a sunset clause, as he put it, so that Parliament could review the situation in three years and decide whether daylight saving should become a permanent fixture on the calendar in Western Australia. Essentially, he was demonstrating - I am not saying this in a personal way, but I will point out a number of policy decisions that have been made in this way - a very arrogant way of attempting to change the way of life of Western Australians across the state. He said that Parliament should introduce this initiative and that Parliament should decide on its continuation. He also did it in a very rushed way. The members for Wanneroo and Mindarie, both Labor members, and a number of other members have been caught on the hop by this bill and have decided that they need to survey their constituents to find out their point of view, and I take my hat off to them for doing so. However, the point is that they are effectively saying that there is no mandate for daylight saving. The Labor Party did not alert the people at the last election that it was one of its policies. Consequently, no-one in the Parliament, bar one member - I will come to that in a moment - has a mandate for this, so they have decided that they had better find out what the electors think about it. There is a bit of a difficulty with this because, as I have said, the bill is being rushed through Parliament. A number of members have surveys under way, but they do not have the results yet. I think the member for Mindarie said that he had sent out about 15 000 surveys and about 600 had been returned to him.

Mr J.R. Quigley: On day one.

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: However, on day two the bill will be voted on, and that will be too late. The member can correct me if I am wrong, but according to my mental arithmetic, about four per cent of his electors have had the opportunity to get back to him and have their say.

Mr J.R. Quigley: What percentage of your electorate has got back to you?

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: I will touch on that matter in a moment. That is the dilemma that members have had because of the way in which the bill is being rushed through Parliament.

Mr J.R. Quigley: They will get a full referendum in 2009.

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: The point I am making is that even the member for Mindarie has sent out a survey. He has acknowledged the need to find out what his electors think about the issue, presumably to help him determine how to vote in Parliament. However, he has not had time for the surveys to be returned to him because the bill is being rushed through Parliament. First, as I have said, there is absolutely no mandate for daylight saving. The way in which the original bill was framed meant that it would have been up to the Parliament - in effect, it would have been up to 46 people, as the majority of both houses of Parliament - to

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decide on a public policy issue that will affect the lifestyles of all Western Australians. A lot of people - I am one of them - happen to think that, with an issue of this nature, the government should go to the people of Western Australia first up with a referendum and ask them whether they fancy the idea of daylight saving and let them decide. I do not even like the idea of trialling daylight saving and then putting the issue to a referendum. The government should put it to the people in a referendum. We on this side of the chamber have argued that position a number of times. A classic example was Labor's so-called one vote, one value legislation. We said that if the government wanted to make dramatic and extensive changes to the democratic processes in this state, it should put the issues to the people in a referendum first and get their endorsement for those changes before they were brought in. That is what the former Premier, Dr Geoff Gallop, promised he would do; of course, we know that that never happened. We know that Labor did not want to do that because it had only about 30 per cent support across the board, including in the metropolitan area, for what it was trying to do. It was trying to wreck the democratic processes in this state. We on this side of the chamber have a number of times argued for a referendum to give the people a chance to have a say on key public policy initiatives before they are put in place. That is where I take my hat off to the member for Kalgoorlie. He is one of the few people - there must be some others - who has a personal mandate -

Ms S.E. Walker: But you're biased.

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: I am totally biased. The fact is that in his election campaign - I think it was when he was elected to Parliament - he distributed brochures to all the people in Kalgoorlie indicating that he would push for daylight saving. At least one person in this chamber has a mandate for daylight saving. I do not have a mandate. I have not told the people in my electorate that if they vote for me, I will bring in daylight saving; nor have I told them that if they vote for me, I will vote against daylight saving. The point is that at least one member has a mandate to bring in daylight saving. At least the private member's bill that we are dealing with at the moment provides for a referendum, albeit, as I have discussed with the member for Kalgoorlie, I still believe that that referendum will be three years too late. However, at least it will give the people the final say. That is what sets this bill apart from the previous bill and, to a large extent, redeems this bill in any democratic analysis.

All too often Parliament has made decisions that, quite candidly, the people of Western Australia do not agree with. I have no market research or anything like that to demonstrate this point, but Parliament has passed laws in the past few years, particularly under the Labor government, that, for example, give homosexual couples the legal right to adopt children. I have not spoken to anyone in my electorate who agrees with that, and I imagine that that view would be pretty much the same around the state. Are members aware that our current law technically enables a couple to choose the sex of their child via abortion? Again, I have spoken to hundreds of people about that matter and only three people have said that they think that should be so. I have mentioned one vote, one value. All the polls have shown that about 30 per cent of the public supports it, which means that almost 70 per cent opposes it. The referendum on trading hours showed that only 38 per cent of people support extended trading hours. Those are four issues - I could list a number of others - for which the Parliament has passed laws contrary to the demonstrable opinion of the public at large or against what members and local representatives are aware that the public wants.

Mr P.B. Watson: What about the superannuation of parliamentarians?

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: We can have that debate any day the member would like.

Mr J.R. Quigley: We got returned with a bigger majority.

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: Let me ask members: what is wrong in giving people a say via a referendum? Nothing.

Mr J.R. Quigley: I had the Mindarie referendum.

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: Does the member call that a referendum? What the member for Mindarie is doing is akin to holding a general election on a Saturday when everyone goes to the polls, but the only problem is that the government was already chosen on the Friday. That is what the member's survey is like. It is a waste of postage. I have no doubt that taxpayers' money paid for that to be printed and posted.

Mr J.R. Quigley: My money paid for it.

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Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: What a waste, because the member has received only four per cent of them back. What is the first booth in the member's electorate? What is the first booth that the member gets results from on election day? I do not know the member's electorate well.

Mr J.R. Quigley: Clarkson Community High School. They vote Labor to a man.

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: By the member's rationale, when the result comes in from Clarkson Community High School at the next election and the poor old member for Mindarie will see that he has not won the smallest booth, and he will have to declare that the Liberal Party has won his seat on the basis of the smallest booth. The smallest booth in my electorate, thank goodness, came my way. I will wait until the big ones come in before I count my chickens. There is no difference at all in what the member has done.

Mr J.R. Quigley: You knew when the first booth was counted at the last election that you were gone.

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: A number of individual members are doing their own surveys, and this demonstrates that they understand the need to find out public opinion on this matter. The opponents of daylight saving point to the results of previous referenda to demonstrate the validity of their argument, as they see it, that there is no need to introduce daylight saving. Some people support it and some do not. Members are saying that they must get the public's opinion on the matter, or, alternatively, they are claiming that they already know the public's opinion from past referenda. However, no members seem to want to hold a referendum up front. I argue that that would be the fairest way to give all Western Australians a say in this matter, regardless of whether they live in the country or the city. This is not exactly scientific; it is an extremely subjective matter. Everyone has his or her own reasons for supporting or opposing daylight saving. Elsewhere in the world in country after country, democratic institutions and societies are able to have a direct say about exactly this type of issue. In the forthcoming election in the United States of America, the majority of states will be having a say on a range of issues, although daylight saving is not one of them. There is nothing wrong with having a referendum. It would cost about \$5 million. Guess what? This bill provides for a referendum to take place between 10 May 2009 and 13 September 2009. That is highly unlikely to coincide with the period of an election. In other words, this bill will cost approximately \$5 million. Why not give people a say now? If the money is to be spent anyway, why not give them a say right now?

Ms S.E. Walker: Why will it cost \$5 million?

Mr D.F. BARRON-SULLIVAN: Maybe someone from the government can tell me that that is not the case. I understand it will cost \$5 million to hold a referendum across the state. If the referendum can be held through the member for Mindarie's electorate fund - oh, wait; that is still taxpayers' money, is it not? I should not goad the member while he is not in his seat.

As I said earlier, the issue of daylight saving is a very subjective matter. It is something that everyone has his or her own reasons to either support or oppose. I have a very strong view on it, and have held that view for some time. However, it is not what I think that matters. What matters is very simple - it is what the people I represent want to see me do in this Parliament on this bill. That is the most important thing. This legislation has been rushed. The government is sponsoring it because we are dealing with this bill in government time, but the government does not have a mandate for this measure. The major political parties have given their members a conscience vote on the matter. As a local representative, I must decide how I will vote on behalf of the people of Leschenault. Therefore, like the members for Mindarie, Wanneroo and others, I conducted a survey. I managed to get my survey out immediately I knew this issue was on the boil. I do a survey in a particular way. I illicit responses from people. It is a much more expensive way of conducting a survey than is the case with posting a pamphlet in a letterbox, but it has proved to be very effective. The survey results in my electorate came out almost exactly 55 per cent in favour of daylight saving and 45 per cent against. The results of the unprompted lobbying - that is, the e-mails, meeting people at the front bar of the pub and that type of thing - were about the same. The result was ever so slightly in favour of daylight saving. I acknowledge that some people in my electorate vehemently oppose daylight saving and some are just about beating down my door and not quite threatening to lynch me if I do not vote for the legislation. The harsh reality is that I do not have a mandate either way on this matter. It is extremely difficult to decide how to vote on something under these circumstances when the view of the electorate is so incredibly finely balanced. The one saving grace of this bill is it provides for a referendum, and for that I am grateful to the member for Kalgoorlie. If this bill did not have a referendum

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component in it, I would vote against it. Even though a small majority of people in my electorate support daylight saving, I would vote no for it because I believe greater public consultation is needed. This is the sort of issue that all people throughout the whole of Western Australia should be able to have a say in.

As my local constituents have marginally asked me to support this bill, I will do so on the basis that in three years' time, all Western Australians, including those in my electorate, will get the final say. Having said that, I reiterate that they should be getting the first say. Thomas Jefferson stated -

Men by their makeup are naturally divided into two camps: those who fear and distrust the people and wish to draw all powers from them into the hands of higher classes; and those who identify themselves with the people, have confidence in them, cherish and consider them the most honest and safe, although not the most wise repository of the public interests. In every country these two parties exist, and in every one where they are free to think, speak and write, they will declare themselves.

I am for the people. I believe that a referendum is the way to go and that a referendum should be held now.

MR P.B. WATSON (Albany - Parliamentary Secretary) [7.27 pm]: I put forward my feelings on the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006: I am against it. I get at up five o'clock every morning and exercise. Therefore, it will be rather dark during summer under daylight saving.

Mr P.D. Omodei: What happens in winter?

Mr P.B. WATSON: I get up then. When I walk along Middleton Beach during summer, I like to see the sun come up and the whales swimming along the coast near the beach.

Mr J.E. McGrath interjected.

Mr P.B. WATSON: I spoke to Wolfie the other day when I was walking along the beach and he said that as long as he is making a quid, he does not care what the weather is like. He is like most horse trainers.

A trial of daylight saving was conducted more than 20 years ago. I have explained to some people I have seen in my office who are either for or against daylight saving that 20 years is a long time. The referendum was held in 1992. A lot of water has gone under the bridge and people change. Many of the young people who can vote today never had an opportunity to vote for either the trial or the referendum. I have conducted straw polls in Albany when I have attended functions. The result has been probably about 60 to 40 in favour of daylight saving. I arranged with a local radio station to conduct a survey and, surprisingly, it was 70 to 30 and the poll of people who have come into my office is probably 40 to 60.

Mr P.D. Omodei: Is that for or against?

Mr P.B. WATSON: The poll at functions was 60 to 40 in favour; the radio poll was 70 to 30 in favour; and the poll of people who came into my office was 40 to 60 against it. I was surprised. I thought that the majority of people in Albany would be against daylight saving, because Albany has many senior citizens. However, I recently attended a couple of seniors' functions where the opinion of most people seemed to be that they had had a good time during their life and they liked things as they were, but that if younger people wanted to try out daylight saving, it was well worth trying. The main point that people have made to me is that it is very important that we have a referendum at the end of the trial. They want a trial for three years and a referendum at the end of it. It was interesting listening to the member for Wanneroo today, because one of my best mates, Greg Broomhall, saw me on Sunday and said that he had heard that his mum and dad had decided on a no vote. He said that his wife Linda and he wanted to put in a yes vote to nullify theirs. He said that they had had a really great discussion on daylight saving and had agreed to disagree. He said that when his mum and dad told him they had decided on a no vote, he decided that his wife's and his vote would be a yes.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: I had an example yesterday of a husband and wife. The husband wanted to say no, so his wife said that she wanted to say yes so that the votes cancelled out.

Mr P.B. WATSON: The same thing happens with support for different football teams.

The fact that more and more people exercise these days because they want to keep fit can be seen by the number of people exercising in Kings Park in the mornings. Some people do not like getting up in the morning, so if they have an extra hour at night when they come home from work, they will use that extra hour to get out and

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exercise. In many young families these days both the husband and the wife work and the children get picked up in the evening from day care or from a family member. I am hoping that they will use the extra time at night to exercise.

The response of people in the farming community shows the diversity of people. I got an e-mail from someone in Merredin and someone in Many Peaks who voted yes. I also got a lot of e-mails from people in the farming community who said no. It is a matter for the individual. I have been impressed by the way in which so many people have put their opinion across. Some people are really upset about it. When I have talked to people who want to vote against daylight saving and outlined the points made by people who are for it, and when I have talked to others and outlined the points made by the people who are against it, they have not been so upset about it. They just want to have their say.

Finally, I think I can say on behalf of both sides of the house tonight that our thoughts are with Lyn Foreman and her family. Her husband Wally is seriously ill in hospital. I went to school with Wally Foreman and have known him a long time. All our thoughts are with him and his family tonight. I fully support the bill.

DR J.M. WOOLLARD (Alfred Cove) [7.33 pm]: Since this Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006 was first put on the table, I have been inundated with phone calls and e-mails - the e-mails have crashed the computer in my office several times a day. People have stopped me when I have gone for a coffee or whenever I have gone out.

Ms J.A. Radisich: You are very popular. That is why they are stopping you.

Dr J.M. WOOLLARD: I thank the member. The e-mails I have received indicate that 95 per cent of those people have said yes, they would like daylight saving. However, I have looked at the statistics for the last three referendums that have been held on this issue. The majority in my electorate in 1974 voted in favour of daylight saving, but the difference between those for and against was only 107 votes. The 1983 response to daylight saving was no, and the difference between those for and against was only 42 votes. I do not have the statistics for the third referendum, but again the difference was in the hundreds.

Although I will be supporting the bill, it is important that we have a referendum. My concern is that the people who maybe do not want daylight saving have not been as vocal as those who do. There has been a lot of lobbying. At the last election there appeared the daylight saving party, which has probably been sending to most members of the house the 500 or 600 e-mails that they have been getting. The e-mails that are coming into my office are not just from people who live in my electorate. Because the last three referendums have shown a fairly close balance between the two sides of the argument, I think the question should go back to the community. In my house my husband does not support the bill but I do, so we will cancel out one another's vote.

Many of the constituents who have contacted me have said that daylight saving will give them more time with their family in the evening and more time for exercising. They have also raised the question of energy saving, which people have raised each time there has been a referendum on this issue. Some local businesses that want to be more in line with the eastern states are for it. Other local businesses are concerned that communication times with Asia should remain the same.

The member for Leschenault said that the referendum could cost up to \$5 million. If that is the case, the house should consider maybe two years rather than the time frame of three years that the member for Kalgoorlie has put forward in this bill, so that the referendum could be held at the same time as the next election. I have always supported referendums. I am pleased that this bill provides for a referendum. However, I am very surprised at the attitude of the government, because we have pushed many times for referendums to be included in bills that have come before this house and the government has never supported one. The government must think that it is onto a sure thing with this bill. Time will tell. Those people who are against daylight saving may come out and vote in the referendum. Because at least 95 per cent of the people who have contacted me are in favour of daylight saving, I will be supporting this bill.

MS J.A. RADISICH (Swan Hills) [7.38 pm]: It is with great pleasure that I rise this evening to support the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006 introduced by the members for Kalgoorlie and Ballajura, at least half of whom are good friends of mine!

Several members interjected.

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Ms J.A. RADISICH: Which half is the question.

I support the bill for two reasons: first, because I believe that daylight saving is good for families and good for business. The elements of the bill that provide choice for people during the trial and after it has concluded mean that people in three years' time, having experienced daylight saving in a modern context, will be able to make the decision for themselves. However, I am disappointed in the way in which this debate has been carried on in the public arena over the past few weeks. In the six years that I have been a member of this house, we have debated a lot of controversial legislation involving life and death, sexuality and other highly controversial and personal issues, but none has provoked such a vehement response from the community as the daylight saving debate. I have been accused of treason, corruption and anti-constitutionalism, and have been threatened with riots in the streets.

Dr K.D. Hames: Is that like antidisestablishmentarianism?

Ms J.A. RADISICH: It is similar to antidisestablishmentarianism, but not quite. It astounds me how a potential change to the clock of just one hour can elicit this kind of vitriolic response from the community. Frankly, I find it very disappointing.

Mr J.E. McGrath interjected.

Ms J.A. RADISICH: Absolutely.

Mr J.E. McGrath: You are a dictator.

Ms J.A. RADISICH: A dictator? I have been accused of many things in my time, but a dictator is not one of them. It is funny that the member for South Perth should mention the idea of dictatorship. One of the items of correspondence that I have received goes something like this: "D'Orazio is a dictator and Labor should not listen to him." I wonder whether that person who corresponded with me feels the same way about the member for Kalgoorlie. I do not know. I will have to get back to that person. The point I make is that the depth of feeling this debate has elicited astounds me, given that it is not a debate about life or death or people's economic prosperity in the home and the family. It is a lifestyle debate. It astounds me that the other issues we have dealt with, which include much more serious matters that often come with religious conviction, have not elicited the same depth of response. I am disappointed at the aggression and the threats of violence that have been put forward by some opponents of the daylight saving debate.

I support this bill. I have vague memories of when daylight saving was last on trial in Western Australia, and that was when I was a small child. I remember playing with my brothers and the next door neighbours in the driveway and on the streets in the evening. After dinner it was still light, and it was safe for us to play and ride our bikes and skateboards - I know that is hard to believe.

Mr G. Snook: You would not have known what time it was.

Ms J.A. RADISICH: It was still light and that is the main thing. I was but a mere young thing then.

Several members interjected.

Ms J.A. RADISICH: How old do members think I am?

I support the bill for a number of reasons. Firstly, because the recreational and positive lifestyle activities that occur outside working hours - particularly in the early evening - are very beneficial to young people and families. People in my electorate agree with this proposition because getting home in daylight hours is a much more satisfying experience and is far less depressing than coming home day in, day out when there is no daylight. It provides an opportunity for gardening, sport and other leisure activities with family and friends, and that is a positive effect that will accrue to the community.

The second major reason that I support the legislation is the integral relationship that Western Australia has with its eastern states counterparts, particularly in doing business as well as keeping in touch with family and friends. In the past 15 years there has been a significant migration of people from the eastern states to Perth. In the past few years we have been able to offer people coming to Perth relatively more affordable residential accommodation, a great lifestyle and employment opportunities. Given the increased number of people who originate from the eastern states and who have family and friends in the east, it is important that we try to

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provide a platform for easier communication. The three-hour time gap across our country is prejudicial to easy communication. For example, in the business world, as members have mentioned, if communications with eastern states have not been completed by lunchtime, people often have to wait until the following day and that can be very frustrating.

I mentioned the migration issue. It was only a few weeks ago when the Eagles won the grand final that our Premier, Alan Carpenter, was in Melbourne recruiting even more skilled tradespeople from the eastern states to work in Western Australia and was offering them a fantastic lifestyle. With the concerted push to recruit skilled people from the eastern states, we need to be able to provide better communication opportunities for them and their families.

Arguments have been put forward about the implication of increased energy consumption with daylight saving. At best there would be a saving and, at worst, the energy consumption would be a cost-neutral proposition. Contrary to popular belief, the temperature in Western Australia will stay the same irrespective of whether we have daylight saving. That is an important point to note. However, we may save a certain amount of energy because when people return home from work in the evening they will not turn on lights and other electrical devices.

Dr K.D. Hames: You will put on the airconditioner.

Ms J.A. RADISICH: I will come to that. People will not turn on lights and other electrical devices until it gets dark, which will be an hour later. The cost of public lighting for ovals will decrease because the lights will not have to be turned on until one hour later than is the case outside daylight saving.

The member for Dawesville mentioned airconditioners. More doors and windows will remain open to allow fresh breezes through houses. The reason I put forward this proposition is my firm belief that members of the community will feel much safer having their doors and windows open during daylight hours when more people are out and about on the streets enjoying this time of the evening.

Several members interjected.

Ms J.A. RADISICH: My colleagues are encouraging me to conclude my speech. I cannot understand why.

Judy Anderson of Henley Brook informed me that her company just lost a client, which involved a substantial amount of money, because of the lack of daylight saving in Western Australia. She lost business to a countrywide organisation that has staff on duty at 5.00 am. Sandi Spence of Ellenbrook said that she would like to express her absolute support for the introduction of daylight saving because she believes that the increase in summer daylight hours after school and work is essential to aiding our struggle with and fight against childhood obesity and diabetes. My favourite letter is addressed to "My Dear MP" and my notes indicate that it reads -

Contrary to popular belief:

Farmers will not have to get up an hour early . . .

The rotation of the earth will remain constant regardless of the deliberations of the WA Parliament.

. . .

Regardless of the godlike actions of some politicians even they cannot create a 25 hour day.

Mr Gene Treanor from Mundaring said in his correspondence, "Please, please, please vote yes for daylight saving." Clearly, there is strong support within my electorate for daylight saving.

Although I have been somewhat jovial in this debate, there are a couple of serious issues that I will mention. One is the potential impact of daylight saving on an outdoor cinema which operates in my electorate. I refer to the Kookaburra Cinema. It has been brought to my attention that the cinema will have to start its screening one hour later; that is, when the sun has gone down. I do not have an answer to that problem. I acknowledge that it is a problem. However, it appears to me that the strongest support from within my electorate is to have this daylight saving trial, and in three years to let the people decide. Although I put on the record my acknowledgment of that issue, I do not have an answer to it now.

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The second serious issue I will raise, which has been raised by those opposed to daylight saving, is the time zone advantage we have in our trading partnerships with many of our South East Asian neighbours, particularly those in China. The state government has a very strong information and communications technology push in Western Australia, and this state is starting to put itself on the map to the same extent that Queensland and Victoria are getting on the map by supporting the ICT sector. Our ICT sector is a very important enabler, not only for the minerals and resources sector in Western Australia, but also for many other industries and professions in our state. One of the major advantages that WA has right now is its communications connectivity with its northern Asian neighbours. This afternoon I spent some time with Professor Ashley Lloyd of Curtin Business School, who is involved in a number of international ICT projects. He expressed to me that an hour time difference could potentially cause some difficulties with the transfer of communications technology between WA and its Asian neighbours. Although I am aware that that may well be a problem in the future, I believe it is imperative that we have this trial and that we consider and assess the extent of the impacts when the referendum is held in three years.

The last point I make in brief is that I have never had the chance to vote on the issue of daylight saving, nor has anybody else under the age of 32 years. Therefore, it is wholly unjust, in my view, for anybody to suggest that we cannot reassess this debate because we have had three referendums already. People under 40 years of age would have voted in a referendum on daylight saving once. People under 32 years of age have never had the chance to vote on daylight saving and, frankly, barely remember what it was like because it was many years ago. In a modern Western Australia, with more airconditioners, more migrants from overseas and more people from interstate, it is imperative that we not only trial daylight saving again, but also give a voice to young people who are often overlooked in our democratic system.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Hear, hear!

Ms J.A. RADISICH: I thank the Minister for Youth for his support on this issue. Young people should have the chance to experience daylight saving and to make a decision for themselves. I commend the bill to the house.

DR K.D. HAMES (Dawesville) [7.52 pm]: First, I join with the member for Albany in offering commiserations to the Foreman family. I listened to Wally Foreman and Kim Hughes during their talkback program on the radio on Saturday. For all of us in this house, it is a fairly shocking event to hear about something like that happening so suddenly, particularly at such a young age. He is a little older than I, but perhaps not as old as the member for Albany.

Mr P.B. Watson: The same age.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The member is not allowed to talk, but he is the same age; there we go. I wish Wally and his family all the best.

I had a very carefully prepared and crafted speech ready for presentation to the house this evening. However, sadly, with the long break that we have had, the refreshments outside, and now the long day and delay in receiving the call, my speech has become somewhat fragmented and distorted. I will be one of the few people in this house who will vote against this legislation. However, I must say that I will do it without great conviction.

Mr M.J. Birney: Vote for it then.

Dr K.D. HAMES: No, I will not vote for it. I will vote in support of what I believe my electorate wants. Interestingly enough, at the last referendum, people in the member for Mindarie's electorate voted very strongly in favour of daylight saving, as they presumably will now. Who knows what the difference will be?

Mr J.R. Quigley: Sorry; all that housing in my electorate didn't exist at the last referendum.

Dr K.D. HAMES: Maybe the area was Whitfords, but, anyway, leading up to that area -

Mr J.R. Quigley: Leading up to there, you are right. However, all the people in my electorate haven't had a vote yet.

Dr K.D. HAMES: A member had the figures. It was a very large percentage, in the order of 60 per cent. At the same time, 60 per cent of my electorate voted against it. I think the figure was 61 per cent.

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Mr J.R. Quigley: It might be an age thing.

Dr K.D. HAMES: Yes, it may well be an age thing. My electorate has close to the largest number of seniors in Western Australia.

Mr J.R. Quigley: Whereas my electorate would have the largest number of young families.

Dr K.D. HAMES: Yes. The point is that a very large percentage of my electorate voted against it. I think that is still the case; that is, a large percentage will vote against it.

I must say that I deleted all the e-mails that came in. We searched through some of them, and we tried to find those that came from my electorate. It was obviously a concerted campaign. The words were all the same. They all misspelt "trial" in the same way; they called it a "trail". They were the same words in just about every e-mail we received. Obviously, what these people were doing -

Mr J.B. D'Orazio interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: I do not know whether the member for Ballajura had anything to do with it. However, it is obvious that there was a concerted effort by those in the "yes" campaign. Obviously, they said, "E-mail all your mates. Here are the e-mail addresses of all the politicians. Send them an e-mail", and that happened. I suspect that the 2 000 to 3 000 e-mails that I received are exactly the same as the 2 000 to 3 000 that just about every member of this house received from exactly the same people. They obviously gave a list of the e-mail addresses of all the members of Parliament. They would not have e-mailed me and not this member or that member.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: That is because the member for Ballajura was the one sticking up his hand and putting his head up the highest above the parapet. How many "no" votes did the member receive?

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Eighty-six or something like that.

Dr K.D. HAMES: Eighty-six were against it?

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Four per cent were against it.

Dr K.D. HAMES: I separated out very few from my electorate. Only 30 to 40 people from my electorate sent a message by either phone or e-mail. Of those who did, about two-thirds were against and one-third were in favour. I think that reflects fairly well the previous vote. I am not fanatically opposed to daylight saving. However, the opinions were made very clear when I agreed to present the "no" case. I made it very clear to the *Sunday Times* that they were not all my views; they were just the views that were presented to me. Members at the back are being a little loud, if they do not mind my saying so. In my electorate, there was a strong push against daylight saving. However, my situation was similar to that of the member for Hillarys. Some people said, "Vote for this and we won't vote against you", and others said, "If you don't vote for this, we won't vote for you again."

It was of comfort to me, I guess, that in presenting the no case - I hope I did it in a balanced way - I received a lot of calls from people in rural electorates, thanking me for putting those points of view and for representing, they thought fairly, the case that they wanted to be presented. I feel sorry for the country people who are strongly opposed to daylight saving. I do not understand 100 per cent why they are so strongly opposed to it. I do not believe those reasons about the chooks and the curtains have ever been put up by country people. As I said in my article, I think they are used just to try to denigrate those people. I believe those people have very strong views against daylight saving. I do not understand fully why. However, I was against daylight saving, and am against it. Nevertheless, I am happy for it to be trialled and for there to be a referendum, because that will give the people in my electorate the chance to experience it again. We experienced it before, but only for a year. I did not like it during that one-year trial, and was pleased when it finished.

A lot of people have not had the chance to vote on this issue in a referendum. Many people are now at different stages of their lives, and they may decide, after a three-year trial, that they are happy to have daylight saving. Interestingly, the member for Mindarie said that because his electorate is a coastal electorate, that might influence people. My electorate of Dawesville is also a coastal electorate. Dawesville is right on the coast. In my electorate, I find that there are lots of morning people and lots of evening people. The morning people want

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to get outside, walk their dogs, ride their bicycles, play golf and, in particular, go on boats, which they cannot do in the evening because the sea breeze comes in.

Mr M.J. Cowper interjected.

Dr K.D. HAMES: Do as I do and pull in the craypots.

Lots of people want to do those things in the morning and still have plenty of time to do them in the afternoon. However, they are a different group; they are older, often retired, and they have more free time during the day to enjoy life and the benefits that it offers. I am therefore not happy that they are being offered this opportunity for daylight saving for three years, and will then have to make up their minds again about whether they want it.

I will be opposing this legislation. I have sympathy for people in the country, particularly those about whom the leader of the National Party spoke; that is, many of our rural counterparts who are in dire straits with the drought. I would hate to think that bringing in daylight saving would contribute in any way to suicides in rural communities. I hope, because of a change of one hour, that it does not. There have been many farmers in my family in Bencubbin, Salmon Gums, Wagin and Boddington. Relatives in my family were the original settlers in Toodyay in the 1830s to 1840s. There is a lot of rural background in my family. Farmers get up at daylight and stop work at sunset. They work to the hours of the day rather than to the hours of the clock. It is therefore difficult to see the problems they will experience in getting up. There might be difficulties with children, but they experience getting up in the dark all through winter to get to school within a reasonable time. I hope that we give people in the country all the support that we can. The key is to give farmers support now because of the difficult times they are experiencing rather than because of daylight saving.

The member for Nedlands has found the figures for me. The result for Mandurah, which covers the member for Mandurah's electorate, in the last election was 61.36 per cent opposed -

Mr D.A. Templeman: It was 1991.

Dr K.D. HAMES: The date of the last referendum was 4 April 1992.

Mr D.A. Templeman: What was the population of our electorates then?

Dr K.D. HAMES: The total number of votes was about 10 000; that is, fewer than there are now. However, now there are three electorates whereas before there was one. The reality is that the calls to my electorate office are mostly against daylight saving.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Mine have been about 50-50.

Dr K.D. HAMES: I presume that leaves out the ones outside the member for Mandurah's electorate, as we have all had a flood of calls from everywhere.

Mr D.A. Templeman: Yes, and you are right, those people who are against are predominantly older citizens.

Dr K.D. HAMES: They are. In my family I am against it and, from what I have been getting back from my wife, she is against it and, incidentally, all her friends from school appear to be against it. However, I have asked a couple of my kids and they are strongly in favour of it. I think it is true that the older citizens in the community tend to be opposed to it somewhat for historical reasons, whereas the younger ones tend to want this bill to go forward. I will therefore vote against the bill to maintain the integrity of my own views and the views of the electorate. I am not happy with it proceeding through the house. However, I hope it will get support for a trial in the other place so that people can ultimately make a decision on it.

MR J.N. HYDE (Perth) [8.04 pm]: I also rise to very strongly support this bill. I have long supported the concept of daylight saving. Daylight saving is not without some inconsistencies. It is important that we realise that this is not the most pressing issue in Western Australia today.

Several members interjected.

Mr J.N. HYDE: As I explained at the Mount Lawley Senior High School graduation last night, we live in the most affluent city in the world and the wealthiest state in the world. Western Australia has a generation of students who will leave high school at the end of their tertiary entrance examination this year and walk down

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

p7886b-7952a

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Beaufort Street, Oxford Street or anywhere in the city and have a choice of eight or nine holiday jobs, virtually up to the level of brain surgeon!

It is also important to realise in such an economy with the lowest unemployment that we also live in a state with a large turnover of constituents in each electorate every year; in my electorate it is 30 per cent. Fortunately as a sitting member I can say that it is the same 30 per cent. The other 60 per cent of us bought a house at a time when we could afford to but now we could not possibly buy a house in the city any more. We are stuck here until we go out toes up!

I have also received many e-mails about this issue. My office has counted up to 9 800 e-mails. Being a central business district member in an area that employs about 300 000 or 400 000 people, it actually crystallised for me and my office an aspect that the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal does not accept or understand; that is, many people who work in the CBD believe I am their local member. My office therefore had to reply to e-mails from people who did not identify their residential address. A lot of e-mails came back asking why we wanted to know their address. It had to be explained that in a democracy in our almost gerrymander-free lower house, the Assembly, members represent the residents in their electorates.

I heard the member for Hillarys, the Luddite, on the radio yesterday talking about things crashing and computers getting jammed and so on. However, there is a valid point for members of Parliament. As workers in a modern society, we have to deal with an antiquated 2004 e-mail system; the service does not cope with large numbers of e-mails. Just as the private sector and much of the public sector is investing in infrastructure, so too must our equipment for engaging in genuine dialogue with our constituents be improved. I raise that point because if members do not understand why the CBD in Perth is driving this wealthiest state in the world, they should read some of the addresses on these e-mails. Of the companies that are involved in creating wealth in Western Australia, mining is only a tiny 12 per cent, and even most of the mining wealth is created in the CBD. There are companies such as Thales Australia, which has been advertising; BHP Billiton Ltd; the Public Transport Authority, which sent one of the few e-mails against the bill; and Royal Perth Hospital. If there were efficiency people in those companies, it would be very interesting to see what their e-mail policies were. The e-mails I received gave a really good snapshot of those companies. The city employs a great number of lawyers. I do not know what lawyers do.

Several members interjected.

Mr J.N. HYDE: I do not know whether some of these companies are brothels or law companies, with names like Clayton Utz and the Libido Adult Shop. I am not sure which is a lawyers' firm and which has something to do with other activities. There is also the ladies division of the Betts group. I did not know that there were still ladies divisions in retail and manufacturing. However, whatever the Betts group does, it and all these companies have e-mail addresses. The ladies division has been very loud in voicing its view.

I will finish with this comment: it is clear that our somewhat gerrymandered Legislative Assembly will overwhelmingly pass this bill. It is not clear whether our horrendously gerrymandered upper house will or will not reflect the democratic wishes of the people of Western Australia. I argue that if the gerrymandered Legislative Council does not reflect the democratic view of Western Australian residents in this vote, there should be a joint referendum next year seeking not only a mandate for daylight saving, but also to abolish the Legislative Council. As a democratic house, our community has already adopted sophisticated methods of community input that make the role of the Legislative Council redundant. Lobby groups, e-mails, walk-in access, staffing, integrity groups such as Ombudsman Western Australia, the Corruption and Crime Commission, the Office of the Public Sector Standards Commissioner and even, to a lesser extent, the media, have replaced the oversight role for which the upper house was originally set up. The unrepresentative nature of the genuine views - I acknowledge that they are genuine views - of individual members in the upper house, and the actual upper house system do not reflect the democratic views of Western Australians. It highlights how redundant an upper house is. Western Australia should replicate the parliamentary arrangements in Queensland, which abolished its upper house nearly 50 years ago. Until Western Australia's ascension as the wealthiest state in the world, Queensland was the leading state. It would be necessary to retire the Legislative Council with dignity and to adequately pension off our very good redundant legislators, as happened in Queensland. However, the enormous cost savings of the Western Australian Parliament becoming unicameral would represent a massive

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

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efficiency gain. I hope that the upper house, despite its undemocratic structure, will reflect the democratic wishes of Western Australians. I support this bill.

MR M.P. WHITELEY (Bassendean - Parliamentary Secretary) [8.11 pm]: Time is indeed precious and I do not intend to waste very much of it. I put on record my reasons for supporting the bill. I will vote for the bill because it involves a trial and a referendum. I want to place on the record that I would not have supported the bill originally put up by the member for Ballajura, because it did not include a referendum. The fact that we have had three previous referendums -

Dr S.C. Thomas: Referenda.

Mr M.P. WHITELEY: Referenda; I thank the member. The referenda on this issue have failed; it would be the height of arrogance to enact daylight saving in legislation without the opportunity to take the question back to the people. I also place on record that I do not accept the argument that is so often put forward by those opposed to daylight saving, namely, that the three previous referenda have put the issue to rest. The results in each case were close. The results were approximately 54 per cent to 46 per cent in the first two referenda, and 53 per cent to 47 per cent in the last referendum. The last referendum was held 14 years ago. The last trial was, I believe, 20 years ago. It is quite legitimate to have a fresh look at this issue. As the member for Swan Hills said, there are many people under the age of 32 who have not had an opportunity to vote. I have had two opportunities to vote. I did not vote in the 1975 referendum because I was too young, but I voted in 1984 and in 1992, and I voted yes on both occasions. I favour a trial of daylight saving, with a referendum to follow. I favour an extended trial, because I frankly believe that we need an opportunity to become used to daylight saving and to get in tune with it. For those reasons I will support the bill.

I will pick up on some comments by the member for Merredin. He said that sometimes the arguments of those opposed to daylight saving are mocked. I think the member raised a fair point. I think there are some valid lifestyle arguments in opposition to daylight saving. I think there is an issue involved in getting young children to sleep in the heat of the evening. I do not think it is something that can be glossed over. There are a number of other arguments against daylight saving that have some validity. However, on balance, I think that this is a lifestyle issue. I think that most people will, in three years' time, opt to support daylight saving. However, that is their choice, and that is the great thing about a referendum. I put on record that I disagree with those who mock opposition to daylight saving by dragging out the tired old arguments about fading curtains and having to repaint the house. That is rubbish; I have not heard that sort of feedback from anybody this time. It has been a far more intelligent debate. I think we need to respect the fact that those opposed to daylight saving take that position for valid reasons. In common with other members, I have received a deluge of e-mails and phone calls. I will not go into details, but it reinforces the fact that we need to let the people choose, and that is what this bill is ultimately all about - letting the people decide, after they have had the opportunity to experience daylight saving.

MR G. SNOOK (Moore) [8.14 pm]: I, like many other members, will be brief. Perhaps unlike many other members, I am not suffering a crisis of conscience. I have always been opposed to daylight saving and I will always be opposed to it, for many good reasons based in experience. Some of these reasons were acknowledged earlier. Having grown up in the bush, I have always maximised my daylight hours. I have always got up early, made the most of the daylight hours and left the clock alone. It can be done; every person in the country probably does it, whether they are involved in farming, fishing or in the commercial retail arena. I think it is beyond dispute that the best time of the day is early morning. If people are like the chooks and go to bed early, they are ready for a full day of daylight without touching the clock.

I would like to pick up on comments made about kids in the country. It is a fact - those of us from the country will have personal experience of this - that it is pretty debilitating for children, from the age of five, to daily spend an hour and 30 minutes on a hot school bus during the peak of summer to get to school. There is no question about that. In fact, I was recently speaking to a school bus operator from the Toodyay area. He said that he well remembered the last daylight saving trial all those years ago. He said that he had to wake up most of the little kids when it was time for them to get off at their stop. It was obviously a fairly long bus run. He had to wake kids up because they could not get to sleep in the evenings when it was still daylight. It is an issue.

Mr T.K. Waldron: It's pretty hard to get to sleep on some of our roads!

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Mr G. SNOOK: I suppose when children are only five or six years old, they become thoroughly exhausted because they have had a lousy night with little sleep.

Mr M.J. Cowper interjected.

Mr G. SNOOK: The Marchagee Track has a good history. No doubt the member would have spent a bit of time on the Marchagee Track.

Mr M.J. Cowper interjected.

Mr G. SNOOK: Yes.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Member for Moore, there is a proposal for the first year at school to be half-days. Just imagine those kids on country buses without airconditioning.

Mr G. SNOOK: There are still kids in my electorate - in the Shire of Gingin, surprisingly - that travel for an hour and a half on a school bus. They are on the end of the run; they do not have a long run and a short run. They go all the way from north of Seabird, between Lancelin and Seabird, to Gingin - little kids along with the senior kids. That is another issue. However, it will be tough on them because they have no alternative. It cannot be said that they will have a turnabout. Many of us had that monthly turnabout -

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Why aren't they given airconditioning?

Mr G. SNOOK: That is another issue. Some of the modern school buses are airconditioned, but not all of them are. However, at the end of the day, the issue is still about those kids getting adequate rest. It is a real issue; it is not a myth and it is not a made-up point of opposition just from people living in the country.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Have you looked at the legislation? There is a clause in it that allows the minister to actually make exceptions.

Mr G. SNOOK: How is that going to work?

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: If a particular area needs the hours changed because of the effect of daylight saving -

Mr G. SNOOK: How will that make the school bus journey take an hour and a half less?

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: The school hours in that location can be changed to accommodate the old hours, so it does not change.

Mr G. SNOOK: Therefore, the school bus run becomes shorter, does it?

Several members interjected.

Mr G. SNOOK: The member is probably dead right about school hours; that is fine. However, I am trying to tell him that whether the journey begins at eight o'clock, nine o'clock or 10 o'clock, a school bus run from south of Lancelin to Gingin will still take an hour and a half of travel each way.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: I know, but that's what happens now.

Mr G. SNOOK: The point is that with an extra hour of daylight at night, kids will not get to sleep an hour earlier, as they normally would. They will miss out. It is far hotter at two o'clock in the afternoon than it is at three o'clock.

Mrs J. Hughes: No, it's not. We're getting peak heat at three and four o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr G. SNOOK: That might happen in the area where the member lives, but it does not happen up in the inland scrub, which is the area that I represent.

I now turn to a few of the issues that have been proposed by the proponents of the bill. Some members on this side of the chamber will vote against the bill, even though they are personally in favour of it. That is fine. I do not have the same crisis of conscience. People have spoken about outdoor activities and the health benefit of a reduction in obesity rates. I was in New Zealand in January and it has daylight saving. Daylight saving is perfect for tourists; it gives them more time to maximise the benefits of daylight. There is no question that daylight saving is an advantage for the tourism industry. However, I looked at the people from one end of New Zealand to the other and their size and shape and physical fitness were not much different from that of the people in Western Australia. I would not be surprised if daylight saving in New Zealand brought exactly no benefit in

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that respect. Mr Acting Speaker (Mr G. Woodhams), you know that an extra hour of daylight will not make much difference to athletic people who want to run around the countryside. It will not get anybody off the couch. Will an extra hour of daylight make people say that they will change their lifestyles? Although my colleague the member for Kalgoorlie is encouraging me to say that that will occur, I say that that is an absolute load of rubbish. Who is going to wake up on the day that daylight saving is introduced and say, "Thank goodness for the Parliament of Western Australia. My whole life has changed. I've suddenly become an athlete"?

Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan: I've seen the light!

Mr G. SNOOK: Yes, and it is blinding me and my curtains are fading! In reality, it will not change the lifestyles of many people. It usually takes a serious event in the life of a person who is a couch potato to change his or her lifestyle, not an act of Parliament. Let us cast our minds forward. If we find in 20 years that daylight saving is not working, what will we have? We will have the daylight saving police ringing the doorbell and telling us to get out of bed. No-one will be in their houses because they will all be out getting fit.

Mrs J. Hughes interjected.

Mr G. SNOOK: The next thing we will be discussing in this place is a curfew to ensure that daylight saving is working. That would be interesting to see.

I have had several debates with a number of my colleagues about energy savings. They have said that they have statistics on energy savings. I am sure that some of my colleagues who are yet to speak will read out a whole lot of statistics. However, figures need to be applicable to the area in which the issue is being debated. I would like to see figures of comparisons for Australia. I am not interested in figures from countries such as Canada, New Zealand and Great Britain, because their climate and circumstances are totally different.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: You can be absolutely sure that the peaking problems of airconditioning in the east are no different from the peaking problems here.

Mr G. SNOOK: I will take the member for Avon's word for it. I am fairly confident that an hour's difference on the clock will result in very little, if any, benefit.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: That is what I am saying. They have daylight saving and they have peaking problems. We don't have daylight saving and we have peaking problems.

Mr G. SNOOK: The argument that there will be energy savings has failed miserably to convince me to change my vote.

People are saying that our roads will be a lot safer and there will be fewer accidents. Can somebody explain to me the rationale behind the belief that there will be fewer accidents?

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: They will be driving in daylight.

Mr G. SNOOK: I see; so no accidents happen in daylight, then?

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Fewer accidents.

Mr G. SNOOK: If we in this place were really smart, we would think about having flexible working hours. Would that be a good thing? People could travel up and down the freeways at different hours instead of turning the freeway into a parking lot every morning and every afternoon. Perhaps we have got it wrong. Daylight saving will be introduced at the wrong time of the year. Perhaps we should have daylight saving in winter. Then some of the energy saving arguments might stand up.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: You've been reading the e-mails.

Mr G. SNOOK: The member should not remind me of the e-mails. When I drove back to my electorate on Friday, I gave due consideration to all the good points put forward by my colleagues on this side of the house who are battling to convince me that there is merit in supporting the bill. I respect my colleagues on this side of the house who put forward those arguments, so I gave them due consideration.

Mr M.J. Cowper: And then another song started!

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Mr G. SNOOK: Yes; I had to turn it up. However, I was really convinced when I walked into the shopping centre in my home town of Jurien and was accosted by people telling me that I will not vote for daylight saving and making the same threats that all members have received. A vast majority of people are really upset about this bill. They cannot understand why Parliament is spending the best part of today and maybe some time tomorrow, as well as the time it will take in the upper house, to pass this crucial piece of legislation that is paramount to making people a lot healthier, saving some energy and being more in time with the eastern states this summer. There is no doubt in my mind that the majority of people in my electorate are totally opposed to daylight saving. That is the view that I have reflected in this place, and that is the view that I will reflect when we vote on the bill.

Members will recall that I said at the beginning of my remarks that the best time of day is in the morning, particularly for people in coastal areas. I refer to the remarks of the member for Dawesville, who asked why people who recreate on the water and avid fishermen go out early in the morning. They go out early in the morning because there is no wind. Why do people go to the beach in the morning? Have members ever counted the number of people on the beaches in Geraldton, Jurien and Mandurah after three or four o'clock in the afternoon? Even the seagulls take off; they do not hang around. Yet all these "Norms" are going to get off the couch and are not going to watch the box with a beer in hand; they will head down to the beach. That is fine for those people who live across the road from the beach, but nobody will drive from the back of Buntine to Jurien Bay to go to the beach just because we have daylight saving.

Mr M.J. Cowper: There are good people in Buntine.

Mr G. SNOOK: There are very good people in Buntine. They know all about daylight saving, and they do not want it either.

That brings me to the argument that we must align ourselves with the eastern states. It is much more important to align ourselves with the Asian market. Most members will agree that that time zone and our business arrangements with that market are more vital.

Mr R.C. Kucera: They work 24 hours a day.

Mr G. SNOOK: Maybe that is what we need to do so that we can keep in touch with them. The point is that shops do shut; businesses that supply parts and other forms of business do shut in Singapore. We should have more interest in keeping our time aligned with that of our Asian neighbours rather than concentrating on what is happening in the eastern states. I speak from experience, I speak from the heart, and I speak to represent the vast majority of my electors. There is no question or doubt in my mind. I will be crossing to the "no" side and voting against this bill. I would like to encourage those people who have a little bit of conscience and thought for people in the bush to do likewise, because people in the bush are feeling a great deal of grief and sadness, and a sense of being disfranchised. Many of them are embittered by those sentiments.

DR S.C. THOMAS (Capel) [8.30 pm]: There should be some sort of reprimand from the Chair for that sort of stare from the minister. It is an absolutely disgraceful performance in the Parliament. It was a nuclear stare. It is absolutely shameful. This is a very emotive debate and I would like to try to intersperse a bit of truth and honesty in between the opinions that most people are presenting. I will try to get to the nub of this issue before the end of my contribution to this debate. I would like to address the comments of the movers of the bill. I am giving them joint recognition for this unholy alliance, or marriage as it were, to try to give them both a bit of credit, although I will not be supporting the bill. In his second reading speech, the member for Kalgoorlie talked about the history of daylight saving in this state. I thought it was a very interesting speech. He stated -

Daylight saving was then adopted by the commonwealth government of Australia on 1 January 1917 and . . . ceased to operate in March 1917.

It was reintroduced again in 1942. Of course, World War I did not finish in 1917; it actually finished in 1918. There was another summer after that. The question that should be asked is: if daylight saving was a particularly effective saver of energy - I will come back to that point a little later - why was it not repeated the next year? The member for Kalgoorlie went on to say that it was introduced in 1942, during the Second World War. I am not sure when it was actually introduced; I am quoting the member for Kalgoorlie.

Mr R.C. Kucera: It was introduced in 1916.

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Dr S.C. THOMAS: 1916, but it actually finished before World War I finished. It was finished before the end of the Great War. It was so effective that at the end of the war, when energy demand was at its greatest and everybody was depleted, it was not reintroduced. The same happened in the Second World War. It was re-implemented between September 1942 and March 1943 in Australia. Australians went to Europe during that war, but Australia really hit its peak in its involvement in the war after Pearl Harbour, which was, if my memory serves me correctly, December 1941. Daylight saving operated until March 1943. Of course, that war ended in 1945. Daylight saving was so successful at the end of the wars, when the entire country was depleted of personnel, resources and energy, that we stopped it. Why did we stop it? Why was it introduced as an energy-saving device and then stopped, at a time when there would have been a peak demand for energy? It was stopped because for the most part it had a very limited effect. It actually saved less than one per cent of the total energy requirement of the country. If it was so successful, surely it would have been continued. The energy saved, according to the member for Yokine, was about one per cent. One per cent of energy might sound really good, but one per cent of energy can be saved by doing lots of other things. Converting cars to biodiesel would probably have nearly the same effect. There are lots of other ways that will save one per cent of the energy output of the state.

Mr E.S. Ripper: We can do them as well.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: We would love to see the Treasurer do it. Is that a commitment to introduce a biodiesel requirement?

Mr E.S. Ripper: I drive a four-cylinder car.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: The member for Stirling is waiting for the Treasurer to say yes.

Several members interjected.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: I drive a diesel car, Treasurer, and I would love to be able to put biodiesel in it. If I have to go to a Gull service station, in some circumstances I can put in a certain percentage of biodiesel.

Mr B.J. Grylls: Is that your government car?

Dr S.C. THOMAS: That is a government car; it is a diesel.

Mr B.J. Grylls: The government explicitly rules out using the Gull B20 in a government car.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: Yes, we cannot use biodiesel.

Mr R.C. Kucera: Has the member for Capel any idea of what one per cent of energy savings equates to?

Dr S.C. THOMAS: Absolutely. I am glad the member for Yokine brought that up. At this stage, at peak levels of summer, it actually equates to about 32 megawatts of power. Now 32 megawatts of power is less than the output of our smallest power station by some degree. It is also a savings. We have wind turbines that produce more than that power almost without producing any greenhouse gas effect. There is some in the construction phase, but that could be done.

Mr R.C. Kucera: So as far as you are concerned, any saving of power is an issue.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: Every saving contributes, but there are other ways to do this, which leads me to my point.

Mr R.C. Kucera: Why not do those things as well? Didn't you read the report from Britain?

Dr S.C. THOMAS: I actually have read the Stern report, and I could probably debate that with the member for Yokine. I would hate to embarrass him by his lack of understanding of it, but we do not have time to do that just at the moment. The energy savings are very small and there are many other ways that we could produce those savings. The evidence is in the history of the energy saving that was achieved in daylight saving times. I want to dispel that myth for starters.

While I am speaking to the member for Yokine, I listened carefully to his address, as I usually do. He talked about Winston Churchill. I was glad to hear him quote good conservative members of Parliament. That should be encouraged. I encourage the member for Victoria Park to listen to them as well - particularly his father. Churchill loved daylight saving. Does the member for Yokine remember from his history studies how long Winston Churchill slept?

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Mr J.E. McGrath: An hour and a half.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: No, no; the member for South Perth is exaggerating. We are trying to remove all exaggeration from this debate if we possibly can. He averaged about four hours a night. He loved daylight saving, of course, because it means getting up early. He had a kip in the middle of the day, as did Margaret Thatcher, another good conservative member of Parliament, whom I am sure the member for Yokine has quoted on numerous occasions. I am sure he is a big fan.

Mr J.H.D. Day: Churchill used to stay in bed and work until quite late.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: I wish I had the opportunity, member for Darling Range, I truly do.

I have a couple of genuine questions here, probably for the member for Kalgoorlie as well as the member for Ballajura. We have talked a little about the 12-hour shift. I am intrigued to know how many 12-hour shifts turn over in that early evening section of the day. This is a genuine question. I do not know the answer to it. How many of those 12-hour shifts turn over between, for example, five to seven in the evening? The people involved are the people who would then basically benefit from daylight saving, because if a 12-hour shift goes from eight to eight, a person is better off without daylight saving

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: They go from six to six.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: A lot go from six to six. It was a genuine question. I was interested to know that.

The member for Ballajura produced a graph that showed peak hour in the evening when everybody will be recreating, which is the main advantage of daylight saving. I was pleased to see him do it, because this is a debate about how people use that period of time. I will return to this issue later, but I find it intriguing that the member for Ballajura thinks it will be used as a recreation period. I am sure that the member for Kalgoorlie will think the same for the time being, but when the member for Kalgoorlie has children, he will use the 6.00, 7.00 and 8.00 pm period differently. The member for Ballajura may have forgotten this, because of the passage of time, but it is one of the peak periods for young families when parents do the most work. I am sure the member for Mindarie will learn this again, because he has probably forgotten. I am sure that the member for Merredin will probably find when he has young children that it is the peak period for work. The member for Ballajura is saying that this period will allow for recreation, which I appreciate, but he will not come and babysit my kids and put them to bed!

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: I said it was recreational family time.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: It is not recreational time for parents who have to argue with their kids through tea time and bath time and before bedtime. It is a double-edged sword. I have lived in three states. I have lived under a daylight saving regime while having young children. It is very difficult. It may not be for everybody. I am sure some people will say that their kids got used to going to bed when it was still daylight and that they had no worries at all. I will never forget the television interview that Steve Vizard gave, when he said that his kids always went to bed in the daylight. He was about to be arrested for all sorts of insider-trading offences, which I do not think is related, but he got his kids to bed. I think in some families that actually happens.

Mr M.J. Birney interjected.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: That is not the whole argument. I can tell the member for Kalgoorlie that, because I have lived in Victoria. It is not the case, and many families struggle. I made a few notes while I was sitting in the chair. I noted that the member for Cottesloe supported daylight saving but said that his wife was dead set against it. It is not the first time I have heard that comment. I am ashamed to admit that my family are blow-ins from the eastern states, as am I, where we have generally lived under these regimes. My cousin now lives in Perth and works in the mining industry. He was in Laverton for a long period of time and is now at Ravensthorpe. He said that he thought that daylight saving was not too bad. He said that he did not mind it and that he and his wife got the kids off to bed without a problem. His wife said that was garbage, because he had never got the kids off to bed. I think that is a fairly common experience. Some people struggle and some people get through it, but I think the debate is probably 50-50. Half the families manage it. However, the passing of this bill will make the lives of half the young kids and the lives of their parents more difficult. I will return to that, because otherwise I will run out of time and I have a lot of issues to get through.

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I will address a couple of other issues that members have raised. A member talked about the need for daylight saving for the tourist industry. There is no doubt that the tourist industry has suffered. Which state has the most vibrant and expansive tourist industry? Which state attracts the most tourists in Australia?

Mr G.M. Castrilli: Queensland.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: Does Queensland have daylight saving, Mr Acting Speaker (Mr G. Woodhams)? You cannot answer because you are in the chair. I apologise. Does the member for Bunbury know whether Queensland has daylight saving?

Mr G.M. Castrilli: It does not.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: The argument is that we need daylight saving for tourism otherwise we cannot keep up with Queensland, which does not have daylight saving! The logic is not there.

The member for Moore talked about health and said that people would obviously be exercising during this additional hour. Of course, in my house it would not work. I do not get a chance to exercise between 6.00 and 8.00 pm because my wife and I are struggling to put four girls to bed. We are trying to get them in and out of the bath, get them to bed and wait for them to go to sleep. People forget that it is not easy. People who support daylight saving tend to be those who have not yet had kids or those who had kids so long ago that they have forgotten how difficult it is. For many people it is pretty hard. They do not get a chance to exercise and recreate between 6.00 and 8.00 pm.

If there were negligible energy impacts from daylight saving, and one can tell there are none, this would be an energy bill introduced by the Minister for the Environment. We would be debating this bill as an energy bill. However, it is not one. It has been introduced as a lifestyle bill. That is why we are debating it in its current form. There is a negligible argument for energy; it is there but it is tiny and not an issue. The same applies to health. The assumption is that people will recreate or exercise at that time of night, which means that those states that have daylight saving will obviously have lower rates of obesity and diabetes. Would that be true?

Mr M.W. Trenorden: All the chocolates on the shelf will melt and you will not be able to eat them!

Dr S.C. THOMAS: That is how we will fix it. It is not true, because the states that have the greatest incidence of obesity have daylight saving. That argument is a nonsense.

Another nonsense that has been put forward is a very common one. Why must we have a referendum? People say that they did not get to vote in a referendum. The member for Victoria Park did not get to vote in the last referendum, but I did. I voted no then and I will vote no now. I think somebody said that people under the age of 32 would not have voted in the referendum. Is this issue more important than the issue of the Constitution of Western Australia? I do not know any member of this house who voted on the Constitution. How often have members voted on secession? I think there was a vote in the 1930s.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: It was 1933.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: I thank the father of the house. Not even the father of the house would have voted in that referendum. We do not need to revisit such important questions as how we run our state. We do not need another referendum on the Constitution. Why is another referendum important for daylight saving when it is not important for the Constitution or any of the other hundreds of other issues that people have voted on? It is a nonsense argument. We did not get a chance to vote on the Federation. Should we revisit that? It has been 70 years since people voted on that. Perhaps we should have another go at it.

I will talk briefly about the need to alter the clocks. People in my situation are trying to put kids to bed at night when they are supposed to be recreating. Every member of this house who votes in favour of daylight saving should come to my house, and babysit and put my kids to bed during that period. I will start a roster if members like, because my curtains will not fade and the cows in the south west will still be milked. I am sure that all the young families in Dalyellup, Donnybrook and Capel will welcome, as will I, help in that peak period when members are recreating and having a good time and have extended our working day by an hour when we are trying to get our kids into bed. I am sure those members will come and help.

Mr E.S. Ripper: I had a great time during daylight saving by playing backyard cricket with my kids. It was terrific.

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Dr S.C. THOMAS: Some people did. How old were the Deputy Premier's kids?

Mr E.S. Ripper: At that stage they were 10 years old.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: Did the Deputy Premier enforce their bedtime?

Mr E.S. Ripper: No.

Mr R.C. Kucera: You tell them to go to bed. When it is time to go to bed, they go to bed.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: There is already a disagreement. The member for Yokine said that he would enforce their bedtime and the Deputy Premier said no. They let slip that is what will happen. People will let kids stay up a bit later and they will be getting kids out of bed an hour earlier. That probably does not matter for half the kids in the state. I can survive on less sleep and lots of kids can survive on less sleep, but lots of kids do not survive very well at all.

[Member's time extended.]

Dr S.C. THOMAS: A recent American study on the sleeping patterns of teenagers shows that their biological clocks work far better if they get up later. Mr Acting Speaker (Mr G. Woodhams), you have teenagers.

Mr R.C. Kucera: They will be getting up an hour later, according to the sun.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: That is an indication that the member does not understand the legislation before the house. A psychological study says that more damage is done to teenagers by getting them up an hour earlier, and that is what this legislation will do. It will move the clock forward by an hour and, in effect, we will get up an hour earlier to provide for another hour's recreation at the end of the day. Teenagers will come home from school at 3.00 pm or 3.30 pm. Members who have teenage kids will know how difficult it is to lever them out of bed first thing in the morning.

Mrs J. Hughes: It does not matter what time it is.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: It does; it makes a big difference. People will say that it does not make a difference to justify the introduction of this bill. People are looking for a reason to justify the legislation and it is one of the key reasons that people will vote in favour of the legislation.

It is unfortunate that, like many people, most members in this place will vote not for what is best for Western Australia but for how daylight saving will impact upon them. This is the key to the reason that I will vote against this piece of legislation. This is not a needs case. This legislation is not necessary for Western Australia. Other states and countries exist perfectly happily without it. It is not required. It is a piece of legislation that, if it is passed, will result in a change to our lifestyle that will make life easier for a number of people; for example, those people who do not have young children and work set hours - nine o'clock to five o'clock.

I spent 20 years in the veterinary industry. Most members, including country members, may disagree with my stance. Generally, farmers get up at about six o'clock on average. My first call as a vet would come in at about 6.15 am because the farmers, on getting up, immediately checked the animals they were worried about the previous night. Like many small business people, particularly in rural areas, as a vet I worked a diurnal pattern; that is, I started work when everyone got up. At the end of the day, as the sun is going down, farmers will check their animals. They do not stop work at five o'clock and pull out a beer. They keep working until the sun goes down, which meant that I did the same. Small business people working in service areas do not get the opportunity to knock off early to spend time with their family. This legislation will add one hour to their working day. They will do the same amount of work in a day. It will take an hour longer to do it, because they will start an hour earlier and finish at the same time. Members might argue that there are very few people in this boat. Perhaps there are only 100 000 people in Western Australia whose working life will be made worse by this legislation. However, these people do exist.

Some families will also struggle with daylight saving, especially if they have young children and teenagers. It will not apply to all of these families, but probably half of them. The legislation will not benefit all people, because most of them will not be involved in recreational activities. The rate of obesity, diabetes and other health issues will not change because of daylight saving. Most people will recreate with their families and spend the extra time socialising. I suggest to the member for Stirling that his wife should keep the bottle shop. I

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suspect there may be an increase in alcohol consumption, because most people will spend that time doing just that.

The question members should consider is: do they feel comfortable making life worse for a quarter of a million Western Australians so that they can make life a bit easier for the other two million Western Australians through a change that they do not need? That is the ultimate question. The business arguments are, to a degree, spurious. I ran a business and we imported from the eastern states. Businessmen can organise themselves to do that. Occasionally there is a machinery breakdown between four and six in the evening, and a part or whatever cannot be ordered from the eastern states at that time. I believe in a free market economy. If that happened often enough, an entrepreneurial company in the eastern states would work late because it would make big dollars out of it.

Mr E.S. Ripper: How many members in the Liberal Party believe in a free market economy?

Dr S.C. THOMAS: There are still a few of us.

Mr E.S. RIPPER: Excellent. I am pleased to hear it.

Dr S.C. THOMAS: If there was a big demand it would be met, because huge dollars are involved. I agree with members who said that the argument about sending things to Asia is not true. We export to Asia and import small bits and pieces. It is not a big import market; therefore, it is not a big consideration. Exporting does not matter, because we are still exporting. Occasionally something goes wrong. It is like the argument about energy. It is a nonsense to say that this legislation will result in energy savings. If it did, we would be discussing clean, green energy. If the Treasurer wanted the bill passed for energy savings, we would be discussing serious energy options. When the renewable energy bill is debated, I will be keen to see how the government addresses it.

This bill is not about energy; it is about lifestyle. At the end of the day, this Parliament and this house will sacrifice the lifestyle of the people who will suffer under this proposal for the lifestyle of the people who will benefit under it. The principle I followed in my years as a vet, which is one followed by doctors, should be adopted by this Parliament; that is, at the beginning the most important thing is to do no harm. After that one can do good. This proposal will do harm and it will hurt people simply to improve the lifestyle of others. For that reason there is absolutely no way I can support this bill.

MR T.K. WALDRON (Wagin - Deputy Leader of the National Party) [8.58 pm]: Before I commence my comments on the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) I extend my best wishes to well-known sports broadcaster Wally Foreman. I have known Wally for years and members know that he suffered a heart attack today. I also extend my best wishes to his wife, Lyn, and the kids. I hope everything works out okay for them.

I have always tried to keep an open mind on all issues that come before this house and I listen to my electorate. In this case, I will be voting against the bill because there is no doubt that in the electorate of Wagin people are strongly opposed to it. Last week the member for Collie-Wellington said that his wife is opposed to this legislation. As the member for Capel referred to wives, I advise the house that my wife is opposed to daylight saving.

The member for Mindarie referred to the referendum he conducted in his electorate. I am glad he did that because it is a good idea. I undertook a survey in late April and May this year when there was talk about daylight saving in the *Sunday Times*. My Wagin survey came in at 77 per cent against daylight saving. Since then I have received many phone calls and faxes at my office on this issue, and people have been coming through the door to discuss it. Just recently, since the debate has really opened up in my electorate, I have been to local agricultural shows and other functions, and it has been made very clear to me - I think I already knew it, but it has certainly been strongly enforced - that, in representing the electorate of Wagin, I should vote against this bill. It is as simple as that.

Some people in my electorate are in favour of daylight saving, and they have made that known to me. However, the percentages are very lopsided in my electorate. Those who are against it in my electorate are very passionate.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Tell us about it!

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

Mr T.K. WALDRON: I know. In this debate, I think that those who are against it are even more -

Mr J.R. Quigley: They are very passionate.

Mr T.K. WALDRON: This issue seems to get people going. I will give a couple of examples. I think the member for Moore talked about getting accosted wherever he went. I went to the Kojonup show. Kojonup is my old home town. I pulled up - my wife and kids will vouch for this - and opened the door of my car, and I had one leg out of the door when two blokes came up to me and said, "Tuck, we want to see you now." Bang. We went to the little official opening - hammer, hammer, hammer. The feelings against daylight saving were strong. This issue really stirs up these people.

I played a lot of football against a guy called Justin Taylor from Tambellup. He is also a good tennis player. He is a good fellow. I received a phone message at Parliament House last week. The phone message was to the effect, "Tuck, it's Justin. Mate, I don't really like ringing you, but I've never been so frustrated, and I've never been so unhappy." I will not say exactly what he said, but he was very unhappy about daylight saving. He said, "Tuck, you used to tell me in football that when you lined up to kick a goal, if you looked at the top of the right-hand post and you tried to kick the ball just inside that post, you would kick a goal. What I want you to do is to imagine, when you are in that Parliament, that you are kicking for goal, and on top of that goalpost are the heads of some members of Parliament - those in favour of daylight saving." He then went through the names of a few of the leaders of this debate. The name of the member for Ballajura was up there, the member for Kalgoorlie's name was up there, and so too was the name of the member for Cottesloe. It was all in good fun that he left me this message, but it actually showed -

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Did he kick a goal? That's the question.

Mr T.K. WALDRON: I think he kicked it out of bounds on the full! That is just a little example of how people feel about this issue. There are many reasons for and many reasons against daylight saving. We have heard heaps of them tonight, and we will probably hear some more. However, I do not want to talk about those, because I could go on forever. I believe it is a matter of opinion in the end. In this debate, I have found from talking to different people that they make their decision based on what affects them at the time. I think the decision might even change at various stages of a person's life. A lot of people with young children do not like daylight saving, whereas a lot of single people do. I was a young guy when daylight saving was trialled in the early 1970s, and I remember that I actually liked it because it suited my lifestyle. When I was a single parent with a couple of little kids, I do not think I liked it very much. It depends on who the person is, what stage of life he or she is at, what he or she is doing at the time, and possibly even where he or she lives.

In the electorate of Wagin, it seems to me that mothers with young kids are particularly concerned about it, as are farmers. Across the businesses in my area, most people also seem to be against daylight saving. I do not know whether it is just a country thing, but that strong feeling certainly exists. One of the things that mothers have spoken to me about quite a lot - we heard it mentioned today - is school buses. I am not sure whether it is right or wrong, but there seems to be quite a bit of evidence that daylight saving is hard on the kids and they get tired towards the end of the week. The member for Ballajura held up a graph the other week showing the differences in temperature between two and four o'clock in the afternoon. The school bus period is usually between about 10 past three and quarter to five for most kids. The graph showed that there was not a great deal of difference in the temperatures. I do not know whether the perception is right or wrong, and I do not know whether the belief is right or wrong. However, the member for Moore talked about practical experience. Many people in my area, including my wife, talk about that practical experience with kids. People have a real concern about that. I think people are talking about what they believe will affect them. That is the point I am making.

That brings me to the point about airconditioning on school buses. If we are to have daylight saving, I believe that all school buses should be airconditioned. Even if we do not have daylight saving, I believe that all school buses in Western Australia should be airconditioned. Seatbelts are being put into all of them. Why should they not be airconditioned in this day and age?

Mr M.W. Trenorden interjected.

Mr T.K. WALDRON: It will take a fair while, member for Avon; I know that.

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Another point was put to me when we were talking about taking the kids into account. When we were talking about recreation etc, some people said that perhaps we should just have daylight saving during the holiday period; that is, in December and January, but not for a longer period. I do not know whether that would be practical, but if this legislation goes through, perhaps it is something that we should think about when we see how the trial goes.

I received heaps of e-mails. I replied to all the e-mails that I could work out were from people in my electorate. I received some big ones en bloc. I do not know how a person could tell how genuine they were or how many people were sending them. I tend to think that when it happens like that, it loses its effect. To me, it lost its effect. However, from the number of people who stormed through my door and from the people who accosted me wherever I went, I have no doubt what the people in my electorate want. In the Wagin electorate, there is no decision for me to make.

Finally, people have said that members should vote for their electorate. I believe that is what we are elected to do. Members should always have the best interests of the state in their minds. I like to think that members always bear in mind the interests of the state. There are 57 members of this place, and we represent different electorates. In the end, those decisions are made. However, a member must support the people in his or her electorate. They are the people whom we represent, and they are the people who elect us. It is very important that we all remember that.

Mr R.C. Kucera: I think you will find from the debate that virtually all members who have spoken are doing just that.

Mr T.K. WALDRON: Some are; some are not.

Mr R.C. Kucera: I certainly am.

Mr T.K. WALDRON: If the member for Yokine is doing that, that is fine. If the Wagin electorate was 65 or 70 per cent in favour of daylight saving, I would support it in this place. It is as simple as that.

I will close by thanking the staff in my office. The past few weeks have been really hectic for them. People have virtually been rushing through the door and vehemently putting their views to them. Even at social functions that have nothing to do with their employment, people have said to them, "You tell this to that bloke of yours." Those people have got stuck into my staff. I want to thank Linda and Di in my office for handling this matter so well. I also thank those people who have genuinely approached us or sent through genuine thoughts on both arguments. I believe that helps a local member to make up his or her mind and to come to an informed decision. The people in my electorate of Wagin have done that strongly. Therefore, I will vote against daylight saving.

MRS J. HUGHES (Kingsley) [9.07 pm]: I will not take very long. I just want to put the voice of Kingsley on the record. When the daylight saving issue arose, it was a short time between the issue being raised and the legislation being brought into the house, which I believe is good. If we want to introduce daylight saving for this summer, that is good. The first thing I did was conduct a random phone poll throughout my electorate. In the seat of Kingsley, it was a resounding result, with 78 per cent in favour of daylight saving. Even in 1992, the result of the referendum in Kingsley was that 60 per cent of people were in favour of daylight saving. Therefore, there has been a further move towards the acceptance of daylight saving in Kingsley.

I put on the record that I was raising very young children during the last period of daylight saving. My children were two, four and seven. It was a great time. We did not have airconditioning, so it was always difficult in the summer to put my children to sleep whether it was in the evening or during the day. However, we spent good quality time together, instead of them complaining about how hot it was in their beds. I think a lot of it has to do with parenting and people's home lives. I thoroughly enjoyed that time. My husband worked very long hours, so that extra hour was always of benefit to us. Also, if members go to Hillarys - people from my electorate often spend time there - they will see that it is absolutely packed to the max. If members go to any of the metropolitan areas along the coast, they will see that people flock there. It will be a real boon for every family who goes there to pick up an extra hour of daylight, because I know that they will all thoroughly enjoy it. I will not take any more time of the house. I just want to put on the record that Kingsley is well and truly in favour of daylight saving. Therefore, I will vote accordingly.

Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]

p7886b-7952a

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

MS S.E. WALKER (Nedlands) [9.09 pm]: On behalf of the Nedlands electorate, I will support the daylight saving trial period and the referendum. However, it has not been easy to come to a decision on behalf of the electorate. Like other members, I have received a lot of e-mails. In fact, this afternoon my electorate officer told me that I have 4 305 unopened e-mails. I am very disappointed with the people who generated that number of e-mails. In fact, they blocked many e-mails from people who wanted to speak to their local member. Obviously, I have not opened those e-mails, but my electorate officer analysed the ages and electorates of the people who called into the office who were both for and against daylight saving. I wanted to speak after the member for Wagin; as I always think of him as the member for Narrogin because he lives there. When I looked back at the referendums for 1974, 1983 and 1992, it was interesting to compare the statistics for Narrogin and Nedlands. The yes vote in 1974 was 51 per cent in Nedlands and 19 per cent in Narrogin; in 1983 it was 48 per cent in Nedlands and 18 per cent in Narrogin; and in 1992 it was 52 per cent in Nedlands and 16 per cent in Wagin. I do not have a figure for Narrogin.

The point is that I can see why the member for Wagin intends to vote in the way he has stated he will vote. Members can see that the vote in Nedlands has been consistently 50-50. Of the people who rang my electorate office - not including phone calls and people who stopped me on the street - 68 were for daylight saving. I was at the St Ives retirement village in Subiaco yesterday at a meeting of between 80 and 100 senior citizens. I had a talk with them and asked them to put their hands up for and against daylight saving. The number was even; although some people cheated and put two hands up!

The age range of the people surveyed was very interesting. There were six people in the 18 to 24 age range for daylight saving; 16 in the 25 to 34 age range; 12 in the 35 to 44 age range; eight in the 45 to 54 age range; five in the 55 to 64 age range; eight in the 65 to 84 age range; and no-one in the 85 to 99 age range. There was one person in the 18 to 24 age range against daylight saving; two in the 25 to 34 age range; five in the 35 to 44 age range; nine in the 45 to 54 age range; 13 in the 55 to 64 age range; 30 in the 65 to 84 age range; and five in the 85 to 99 age range. That therefore tells us that it is young people who want a daylight saving trial.

When I was originally asked by journalists what I thought about this bill, I tended towards voting for daylight saving. However, I have a feeling that the last time a trial was on I did not like it; that may be because I had a young child then. I do not want to go into the pros and cons of the issue; all I want to do is put on record the reason for the way I intend to vote. I have come down in favour of the trial, as it is a trial. The trial is for three years, which I think is too long; I would have preferred two years. However, I think the house will vote for a trial for three years. The bill has come on for debate and I must vote. It is time for this generation to have an appreciation of what daylight saving is all about. That is the reason I will vote for the trial.

I want to briefly read out some e-mails I have received, as some people said in their e-mails that I probably would not read them. One e-mail reads -

As one of your constituents, I am writing in support of the motion of a trial of daylight savings in Western Australia. I conduct a good deal of business with the Eastern States, and a three hour time difference in summer is highly disruptive to the management of this business. I can't think collectively how much this must cost WA businesses but it must be a huge amount. Also, having recently lived in Sydney the longer evenings are pleasant after work and are very popular with those who get to enjoy them. Finally, as a father to two young children, when the sun gets up at 5am so do the kids! I am sure I don't need to tell you how unpopular that is with the adults in the household - something that also must be replicated across WA.

So, in summary I would strongly urge you to support the motion to introduce the daylight savings trial.

I am reading these e-mails because I want to put the views of these people, not my views, on record. Another e-mail reads -

I have lived in Nedlands for 10 years and nearly every day I lament the lack of daylight in the evenings. In addition to providing a more balanced sleeping pattern (broad daylight at 5 am is quite unwelcome), the introduction of daylight savings would permit my family to enjoy outdoor activities more in the evenings. I therefore urge you to support this measure.

That e-mail came from someone at Leura Street, Nedlands. Another e-mail is from someone who used to babysit my children. It reads -

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

Dear Sue

I would like to add my support to the push for day light saving.

As a lawyer who has worked full time for the past 21 years, I think that day light saving will add a lot of benefit to me personally and my colleagues and friends, both from a business point of view (no 3 hour time difference) and by having an extra hour of daylight after work to socialise and exercise in day light.

I lived in the UK for 3 years (going back a while now!) and I have vivid memories of the lovely long evenings during the summer - playing tennis at 8pm without lights and then sitting outside for a drink at the local pub afterwards!

I encourage you to support the Bill . . .

There were a lot more than two e-mails against daylight saving, but I have only two with me. I must say that the people against the bill who wrote to me were older and actually took the time to send me handwritten letters; I appreciate that. One letter reads -

I am writing to protest in the strongest possible terms that this issue is before us again. I am angry at the arrogance of those who have introduced it, in spite of the number rejections there have been.

I am also angry at the assumption (by those in favour), that anyone opposed to daylight "saving", is stupid and have no valid reasons, and therefore don't count, and their opinions should be ignored.

I am suspicious because of the speed, lack of notice and lack of opportunity to comment on this issue, because it will adversely affect so many in the community.

My reasons for objecting to the changes.

1. I was teaching Year one children during the previous trials, and I clearly remember how badly they were affected by the resulting lack of sleep (see point 2). Young children sleep according to the time and heat of the sun, but have to rise and function, daily, according to the clock. This fatigue effects their reactions and learning.
2. In Perth and much of the state, we have late maximum temperatures. (Tues 24th was 4.00pm, Wed 24th 3.45pm). This is not such an issue in some other areas . . .
3. Putting the clock forward doesn't give me an hour - it rather takes one away from the pleasant part of the day in summer . . .
4. I object to using electric light on summer mornings - and because of heat it won't go off an hour earlier at night. . . .
5. The three-year trial is too long. One summer would be enough.
6. We just don't need it.

The last e-mail states that this is the first time the author has ever written to an MP and does so to me, as his or her MLA, about daylight saving. The e-mail states that author is extremely opposed to this loony idea and implores me to think carefully about the issue before I cave into this trial initiated, firstly, to bury the Ravlich issue and, secondly, to give lazy people more excuses for not enjoying the best part of the day, the sunny, cool summer mornings. The author says that no is the only vote, and that there are many reasons, too many to recite in an e-mail I may not even read. The e-mail states that the author was sure that I have had thousands of other similar letters and e-mails but, as one of my constituents, wanted me to know that he or she is opposed to daylight saving and will be tuned into the vote I make.

I usually get up at 4.30 am every day and read the three newspapers I have delivered. I enjoy that time of day, as I have always been a morning person. Some people are morning people and some people are evening people. One point that I want to make, after listening to my colleagues, is that it is a shame that this issue was not debated on a panel on *Stateline* or somewhere so that members could listen to the concerns of country people. Having lived in the bush, or the country, I know that country people often think that they are ignored.

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Mr G. Snook: They are.

Ms S.E. WALKER: They are. I agree with that. I have sympathy for people from the country, but I am representing my electorate now and trying to do the right thing by them. However, it is a great shame that the community of Perth did not have the opportunity to debate this issue on a panel that would have accommodated and listened to the views of country people who are often disadvantaged in many ways. They are my reasons for supporting the bill.

MR F.M. LOGAN (Cockburn - Minister for Energy) [9.18 pm]: During the debate so far there has been a bit of discussion about the number of e-mails that members have received, and I will refer to the e-mails I have received as well. I received more than 5 000 e-mails in my ministerial office and more than 3 000 in my electorate office. Clearly, as has been expressed in this place by a significant number of members, the majority of those e-mails were in favour of the bill, although I accept that these e-mails were the subject of a fairly straightforward broadcast campaign with people basically forwarding those e-mails and asking people to forward them to their friends and so forth.

Mr M.J. Birney: Are you suggesting people sending those e-mails are not in favour?

Mr F.M. LOGAN: No; I am saying they are in favour. I was describing how the campaign works. It is a fairly straightforward e-mail campaign, and an acceptable avenue through which people can express their views, even though, as occurs more and more in today's politics, it is a broadcast campaign.

In supporting the bill and the introduction of the three-year daylight saving trial, I believe I reflect the majority of the electorate of Cockburn's views. I say that based on the letters and e-mails I have received and on anecdotal evidence my staff and I have heard from the various people who have popped into the offices or whom my staff have met elsewhere as part of their duties. I think the views on daylight saving are split along demographic lines. In other words, a significant number of older residents of Western Australia do not support daylight saving; whereas a significant number of younger residents clearly support it. I think all of us will accept that that is coming through in the letters, e-mails and anecdotal evidence. My reasons for supporting the trial of daylight saving and the referendum are as follows. Firstly, there is no doubt that it is good for business. If members want to ask some of the stockbrokers in Western Australia the impact daylight saving has on their dealings with businesspeople in the eastern states, they will get a clear view of how their world works. Communication with their colleagues when there is a three-hour difference between Perth and the eastern states is an absolute nightmare. On most occasions they start work at seven o'clock in the morning. Given that the market opens earlier in the eastern states than it does in Western Australia, the three-hour time difference is a real problem for the stockbrokers in Western Australia who need to communicate with the stock market in the eastern states. I am sure everyone in this chamber has experienced those difficulties. When it is nine o'clock in the morning here, people in the eastern states have already gone to lunch. By the time people here have done a few things during the day and remembered to contact those same people in the eastern states, they are getting ready to go home, have gone home or have gone to a meeting. When the three-hour time difference is operating, businesspeople end up trying to chase down people in the eastern states for days. It is an absolute nightmare for people who must deal continually with people in the eastern states.

The member for Moore referred to the time zone difference between Western Australia and our Asian trading partners. Western Australia operates on the same time zone of 19 or 20 hours later than Greenwich Mean Time, and that puts us in line with our trading partners in Indonesia, Vietnam and China.

Mr M.J. Cowper interjected.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Not between 19 and 20 hours after GMT.

Mr M.J. Cowper interjected.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I am talking about 19 to 20 hours later than GMT. Business people have spoken to me about how the hour of daylight saving would impact on our Asian trading partners. I do not agree with the member for Moore that it will have a significant impact. Daylight saving involves only one hour. If anything, it will put us into the same time zone as our trading partners in Korea. It will put WA only one hour ahead of China. It will not have a dramatic impact given the type of trading we do -

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

Mr G. Woodhams: What about Asian stockbrokers? You just told the member for Moore what you were arguing about. You are not making any sense.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: I suggest the member for Greenough shut up; he is a boofhead.

Mr G. Woodhams: Thank you for being polite, member.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: He should just shut up; he is not making sense at all.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr A.P. O'Gorman): Order! The problem with interjections is that they lead to the debate deteriorating fairly rapidly. I ask that the member be heard in silence.

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker.

Mr B.J. Grylls: Will you take an interjection?

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Not if it is like the previous member's interjection.

Mr B.J. Grylls: You said the one hour will not make much of a difference to the contact with our Asian neighbours, but it is so important for the stockbrokers. If one hour doesn't make much difference, why -

Mr F.M. LOGAN: Why does the Leader of the National Party not listen to what I say? I have spoken in this house a number of times about the member's inability to listen. He is showing that inability again. I was talking about the difficulties of dealing with businesses in the eastern states during a three-hour time difference between here and the eastern states. It is a blooming nightmare. The Leader of the National Party should not deny that he has had that experience when he has tried to contact people in the eastern states during the three-hour time difference.

The second benefit of daylight saving is that it is good for families. It allows them to spend more time together, to play together, to play sport in the evening and to spend more time out of the house and down at the beach. We live in a Mediterranean climate and we should be able to enjoy the warmth the extra hour brings and dusk after that in a lifestyle similar to the lifestyle of people in the Mediterranean. It will give us more time outdoors and will allow us to enjoy the balmy type of evenings that we get on the coast in Western Australia where the majority of people live. I acknowledge that not everybody will feel that way; some people quite clearly oppose daylight saving because of where they live and the problems the heat causes them. I am talking about what that hour will bring for the lifestyle and culture of the majority of Western Australians.

The third reason I believe we should support daylight saving is that, as the member for Hillarys said earlier, it is good for tourism. We are in the process of passing new legislation to deregulate liquor trading hours, which, hopefully, will lead to the establishment of new bars and new ways of expressing our social culture here in Perth through restaurants and bars. The extra time on a summer evening in conjunction with the social changes that will result from the new liquor trading regulations will play significantly into the hands of tourism in Western Australia. It will be fantastic for the community because we will be able to enjoy ourselves in a series of new venues with extra time on summer evenings.

These are just some of the reasons I support the introduction of daylight saving. I acknowledge that there are spirited views against it and I respect those views. However, over the next three years the community will get quite used to the extra hour of daylight. They will find out that the world has not come to an end and the sky has not fallen in. In fact, once daylight saving has started, until the referendum is held in three years, they will not even remember that the changes have been made. At that time, they will vote in favour of it because they will have enjoyed the benefits it brings for both tourism and the general social milieu, in conjunction with the new liquor trading hours and benefits for families. As members opposite all know, the benefits it will bring to business will ensure daylight saving will continue into the future as standard practice for Western Australia.

MR D.T. REDMAN (Stirling) [9.29 pm]: In considering my contribution, I decided to wear a tie that I thought was pertinent to the occasion because it depicts dairy cows. It is very important to acknowledge that dairy cows have their place in the daylight saving debate. I am colour blind and I had to ask people whether the tie matched and they told me that it did. However, I am wearing it for the sake of the debate.

I oppose the bill, but I will put on the record -

Mr E.S. Ripper: That is bull on your tie rather than cow!

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Mr D.T. REDMAN: That is an appropriate comment from the Treasurer.

I have a personal view on this issue. I am slightly in favour of daylight saving. I do not have a strong view, and that largely reflects my stage in life and the age of my kids. However, the strong view of my electorate is that it is opposed to the bill. I will raise a couple of points. The first point is the process that we have gone through to get to this stage over the past couple of weeks. I have been in this house for almost two years and in that time - I have spoken to other members - I have not heard of or seen anything like that which has taken place with the introduction of this bill. It has come on very quickly. It has come from an Independent member and an opposition member. Members of the National Party, as the second party in opposition, have often tried to introduce bills, but we know what happens to them; they simply do not get up. However, for some reason this bill has been able to get a hearing. I believe it has had the support of the Premier, and I think that is one of the main reasons it has been able to be debated. It is an appropriate time for the government to debate it. The member for Leschenault articulated very accurately some of the issues that are hitting the meter for the government, so it is very appropriate that this bill be debated to take some of the pressure off the government on those issues.

I see this bill as decision making on the run. I would have liked it to be put to the media or at least the government to signal its intention some time ahead, whether that be before an election or six months hence, so that people would have had a fair opportunity to debate it. As the member for Nedlands mentioned, it could have gone to a media forum so that people could understand all the issues and be in a position to give feedback to their local members. This bill has been brought on very quickly, and I have a serious concern about that. My assessment of the debate is that regional areas are very strongly opposed to the bill. The electorate of Stirling is very opposed to it, and I understand that the electorate of Warren-Blackwood is opposed to it. The electorates of the member for Collie-Wellington, who is not in the chamber at present, and the member for Wagin are also opposed to it. The member for Roe is not in the chamber at the moment, but I expect that he will vote against the bill. Clearly, the member for Merredin will vote against it. The members for Moore and Greenough are opposed to the bill. That reflects the fact that a lot of agricultural areas and, in particular, inland agricultural areas are very strongly opposed to daylight saving. I suspect that the member for Murray is also opposed to the bill. Clearly, other electorates that I do not have an accurate measure of, simply because I have not spoken to those members, will be opposed to the bill.

One of the reasons that the daylight saving debate has been raised again is that there has been a demographic change in our state. There is a very centralist population in Perth. History shows us that there has been a stronger vote in regional areas; therefore, in the past, it has probably carried some weight in the debate. The member for Merredin mentioned quite rightly that it was not entirely the country vote that resulted in the failure of the referendums of the past; clearly some people in the city have concerns. I have a bit of a theory, which has been borne out by discussions with some members from inland metropolitan seats who are affected by the heat of the afternoon and who could well be opposed to daylight saving. People living in the regions can draw a parallel between the reasons that this debate has been brought on and the likely success of the bill and the scenario of the one vote, one value legislation. A number of seats will be moved from country areas to the city. People who live in the centralist part of the state have a far greater influence on, and decision-making capacity about, what happens in the state. I think that is one of the reasons that this bill will be successful. I am very concerned and somewhat disappointed that the Premier has taken the position that he has. I understand that he is personally opposed to daylight saving, but he will support the bill. He has probably played a significant role in bringing on the debate. I am sure that if he did not want it to happen, it simply would not have happened. I am also concerned that the Leader of the Opposition has taken a position that is contrary to that of his electorate.

Mr T. Buswell: I thought you were talking about representing your own electorate.

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I am.

Mr T. Buswell: You will have to bide your time before you can move up there.

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I am talking about my concern for the changes -

Mr T. Buswell: No, you're not. You're talking about his electorate. You said that you were going to vote for your own electorate.

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I am.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr A.P. O’Gorman): Order, members!

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I am raising the issue of one vote, one value and its impact. I think there is a strong parallel between members’ views on that legislation and what people think about daylight saving. The member for Central Kimberley-Pilbara has taken a position that is contrary to that of his electorate.

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I ask regional people to think very carefully about how this issue will play out and to consider the electoral reform changes that will be in place after the next election. There are some big concerns for people who live in the regions about the level of representation they will have. This is one of those matters on which their views probably will not be supported. It simply reflects the demographic change that has occurred in this state. Obviously, that is a concern for regional people; it is a concern for the people we represent.

When I was phoned by Graham Mason and asked to make a comment on which way I would vote, I said that I was undecided at that point. I did that on purpose because I was hoping to stimulate feedback from my electorate. I had an opportunity to speak on radio as well and I put the same view to encourage people to contact me. My office has been overwhelmingly bombarded by people who are concerned about this legislation and asking me to vote against it. I have been to a few other forums. I was at the golf club last Saturday. I did not make it for the game, but I went to the presentations. Members take those opportunities to get a feel from the floor. The indication from those people was probably 60-40 opposed to the bill. I was a tad surprised by that because I thought that golfers would have pushed for the opportunity to play twilight games during the week. I went to a sports carnival at Wellstead. The parent group there was strongly opposed to daylight saving. I suspected that that would be the case, as it is a farming community. It was similar in Kendenup. I went to a corporate golf day there. There would have been 100 or 150 people there. Again, the view of the people I spoke to was that they are against daylight saving. I also went to Borden, which is just outside my electorate, but a lot of people from my electorate are represented at the schools. The very clear message from those people was that they are against it. I took the opportunity on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning to talk to a few groups in my home town of Denmark. Denmark would be the one area in my electorate in which there is a stronger sense of support for the legislation. A lot of people did not have a particular view. They did not feel that it affected them and therefore it did not particularly matter which way it went. I am firmly of the view that people tend to think about the impact this legislation will have on them. That is one of the factors affecting them in this debate. The demographic of an electorate has some influence on the outcome. If I were to give a breakdown of the demographic of the people who are opposed to daylight saving, I would say that young mothers form one group and the farming community forms another. I do not want to tag the farming community as the only group that is opposed to daylight saving. A lot of businesspeople in farming communities are opposed to it, as are elderly members of the community. Those are the three groups that I believe are opposed to daylight saving.

Mr M.J. Birney: You said that you personally support daylight saving. Can you tell us the reasons for that?

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I would not say that I strongly support it; I probably only slightly support it. One of my kids will turn 20 next year and my daughter will turn 18 next month. They have both left school. Back in the late 1980s when they were babies, I probably would have had a different view. My wife works in a business in Denmark. The pattern of my behaviour will be similar to that of other members. The opportunity for some daylight in the evening is appreciated. I pursue physical fitness, and I like to take the opportunity to go for a run in the evening.

Mr M.J. Birney: Do you think there are many other people like you in your electorate?

Mr D.T. REDMAN: I am sure there are. Again, it is disappointing that we did not have a lot of time to make an assessment, but I went out in the short time available to the electorate and my position on daylight saving was genuinely undecided. I was overwhelmed with the no vote and therefore wished to reflect the position of my

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electorate. There certainly are groups that are in a similar position to me. Many people do not care; they have to sit down and think about it, and effectively sit on the fence. Those opposed to daylight saving certainly hold very strong views compared with the strength of feeling from those to whom I spoke in favour of it. That is the best way I can describe what I have discovered about the voting patterns in my electorate in the time available to do so. For that reason, I will vote against the bill. Despite that, I think that the legislation is likely to go through. I am pleased that there is a referendum at the end of it. I would certainly have supported a referendum, because after having been through three referenda, people feel ownership of the issue. In fact, notwithstanding arguments to do with people's daily behaviour and how daylight saving affects people on a personal level, a strong view that emerged was the feeling that this is a people's issue - people did not feel it was a politician's issue. That is borne out of the fact that three referenda have been held on the matter. If there had not already been three referenda, people would probably not hold that view. They feel that it is a people's issue rather than a politician's issue, and are quite aggrieved that politicians are making the call on daylight saving. The notion of treason emerged. People asked us to check the Constitution; we did so. People were strongly opposed to the fact that politicians have introduced this bill and are making the decision for the people - certainly for the next three years. That is my assessment of the electorate and that is the response I will follow in casting my vote.

MR G. WOODHAMS (Greenough) [9.41 pm]: Before I address my comments to the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006, I, like several members before me, offer all the best to the Foreman family, and in particular to Wally Foreman, who is in hospital at the moment. As a former working colleague, my thoughts are with him. As many people might or might not know, I am also a great lover of motor racing. One of the great speedway racers of Western Australia, Michael Figliomeni, passed away on Saturday night after a heart attack. He was 41 years old. He was a four-time Australian champion in speedcar racing, and it is a great loss to the speedway community of Western Australia. Once again, my condolences to the Figliomeni family.

Mr Acting Speaker, you can see the gallery is absolutely packed chock-a-block with people who sent e-mails to members and who are overwhelmingly interested in this debate tonight! However, despite their absence, I know that the member for Ballajura -

Mr M.W. Trenorden: He was stacking things; we know that!

Mr G. WOODHAMS: The member stacked the box!

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: If you want me to bring it up to the gallery, we'll do that for you as well!

Mr G. WOODHAMS: I tell the member for Avon that the member for Ballajura has stacked the box. I am sure it is an advertisement for the Forest Products Commission. Another delivery came into the house earlier today and the member has removed it, so I might suggest that if the member is not successful the next time around, the Forest Products Commission would certainly be very interested in the products he has in those A4 cartons!

My research on this topic took me far and wide. As you know, Mr Acting Speaker (Mr A.P. O'Gorman), I am fond of travelling. I spent some time in Canberra recently and went to the National Library of Australia. In common with a couple of members before me, I referred to material dealing with the first time there was daylight saving in Australia. During my browsing in the National Gallery of Australia and the National Library, I came across, not unexpectedly, a poem dedicated to daylight saving. It was written by that well-known poet or poetess - not Dorothea Mackellar. The poem is called *I Love A Sunburn Daily* -

The love of beaches and stubbies
Of chardonnays by the pool
And doing deals in Sydney
With Coles and Woolies too
Strong love of wearing raybans
While driving in your Govvie car
I know but cannot share it
Because this time you've gone too far
See I love a sunburn daily

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio;
Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob
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Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim
Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy
Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr
Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David
Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

An extra hour will not work
The last time we were asked to try it
We were still recovering from Premier Burke
I love my faded curtains
And cows producing latte
My clock on Western Standard Time
And more bloody hours at Bunnings on Sunday
The tragic Labor government
And those swingers Matt and Johnny D
Long lunches with revenge intent
Giving Eric an extra hour to spend our surplus. Free.
Let the Greens tangle in the upper house
Where the Ljiljannas coil,
And trendies deck the lounges
After a hard day's toil
Core of my heart, my rolex
Her ticking body so sweet
Mum and Dad rolling around in the morning
There's a scene hard to beat

Mrs D.J. Guise: That's too much information!

Mr G. WOODHAMS: Members will read into this bill what they want to read into it; that is what I have been hearing throughout the debate! The poem further reads -

But then the clockheads gather
And we can bless again
The dopey daylight savers
Who haven't got a brain
Core of my heart, my cheap imitation bought in Thailand Rolex
In this land that time forgot
An extra hour every day,
And Carpy wants the lot.
We now have one fat time zone
All lined up with the Congo
Even the Mandurah line can run on time
With Alannah the Station Master keeping time on the bongo
The filmy veil of woopy weed
That thickens in the air
Pot smokers another hour to burn and indulge in vacant stare.
A summer of endless daytime
No clock to hold her back
This wilful, lavish land sucking mid strength
Can't catch a taxi, mate they're enjoying the sunset at Cottesloe
And the flag fall will set you back.

Mr Acting Speaker, this is the last, I think very important, verse of one of Dorothea's lost poems -

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

All you who have not loved her,
Daylight savers You don't understand -
Though sunburn holds many splendours,
And of it when I die,
I know to what Time Zone
My homing thoughts will fly.

Mr Acting Speaker, I am in an emphatic mode; maybe you did not gather that. Maybe some of the soft-headed modernists, as I refer to them, on either side of the house do not understand it, either.

There was a forum in ancient Rome, during the Roman Empire, known as the senate, in which there were several Caesars. Members may know about the senate and about Caligula, who appointed his horse as his successor emperor.

Mr R.C. Kucera: A bit like the leadership of the Liberal Party!

Mr G. WOODHAMS: The member may be correct, and I will not dispute him on that note. However, there are a lot of Caesars in Parliament at the moment who would impose their own will on the people of Western Australia. What part of the referenda do members not understand? Is it the three no votes? Is there something members do not understand about the word "no"? Perhaps there is not. Should I conduct a survey? Perhaps I should. Perhaps I should go out and ring up everyone in the electorate of Greenough. I think they would string me up for being such an imbecile if they thought I was not going to vote no. So, quite calmly, I support my electorate, which has intently, intensely and interestedly advised me to vote no. I do not think there is any part of that I do not understand.

Mr M.P. Whitely: There's quite a bit that I don't understand.

Mr G. WOODHAMS: The member may be living in the ancient land of "Messingwithtimea", because that is certainly where people who are voting yes belong. It is social engineering for people who do not have the capacity to think for themselves. It is for people who do not have the ability to organise themselves around the time zones of the eastern states, Asia, North America or Terra del Fuego. If people think that they are wonderful businesspeople but cannot deal with one hour and must put their clocks forward, perhaps they should get up an hour earlier. Many quite successful businessmen do it; in fact, I am proud to say that one business that starts earlier is from the mid-west, and that is Westnet, the Internet company. Those people get up an hour earlier, make it work for them and do not complain or whinge.

A fascinating experience that I thoroughly enjoyed several years ago was to work in a different state of Australia. I worked in South Australia for a while. It was quite revealing. South Australia was on daylight saving time, as were some of the eastern states. Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales were on daylight saving time, but not Queensland or the Northern Territory. South Australia put its clocks forward half an hour to keep up with New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. However, the Northern Territory did not, so the people who lived immediately north of South Australia were an hour behind. What was curious was that South Australia stayed on daylight saving time for several weeks longer than did Tasmania, Victoria and New South Wales, which meant that South Australia, which was normally half an hour behind those three eastern states, ended up being half an hour ahead. A member who is not present at the moment might advise me to shut up if he were here. People would ring New South Wales, Victoria or Tasmania for an appointment at a certain time, and the people in those states could not believe that South Australia was ahead of them. That was social engineering that once again had gone totally and utterly mad. We do not need social engineering. What we need is a good dose of commonsense. What part of "no" do people not understand?

Time is not something that can be measured in a cup. It is not something one can get hold of. It is not a physical entity as such. We impose a clock on it. The time line in Western Australia runs through Southern Cross. I have heard members from both sides of the house explain the advantages and disadvantages of being in front of or behind the time line. All I ask is for some commonsense in this debate. I have heard very little from many of the yes campaigners. I will admit that I have heard some commonsense from some of the yes campaigners, but not enough to sway me and certainly not enough to sway the electorate of Greenough, for whom I will vote no.

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It is as foolish to tamper with what we have and what works for us now as it is to change time to a 10-second minute, a 10-minute hour and a hundred-hour day and a 10-day week. No!

MR T. BUSWELL (Vasse - Deputy Leader of the Opposition) [9.55 pm]: It is always a hard job to rise in the shadow of the bard, but I will give it my best endeavours. I will not support this legislation, although not out of a particularly strong aversion to daylight saving; in fact, it is one of the few issues on which I do not have a strong point of view one way or the other.

Mr M.P. Whitely: Ask Noel Crichton-Browne!

Mr T. BUSWELL: I will vote no, and I will touch on the issue and explain my reasons. It is little wonder that the member for Bassendean has so few friends on his side of Parliament. Perhaps he will follow in the footsteps of his good friend and mentor, Senator Webber, and get the green light and leave. Of course, Senator Webber will not be here to rescue the member for Bassendean next time he is left without a seat and needs the people at Curtin House to attach a parachute to his back and hold up all preselections in the Labor Party in Western Australia to make sure that he gets a seat in Bassendean for fear of rejection in another electorate. That is a matter for his colleagues to determine in due course. I am sure that they will in a knowing and fitting manner.

Getting back to my point, I have been interested to hear people pontificate about the views of their electorate and say that they would vote one way because that is what their electorates insist of them. This is an interesting concept for a number of reasons.

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr A.P. O’Gorman): Order, member for Bassendean!

Mr T. BUSWELL: I often have cause to go back to a debate that occurred in this chamber some time ago when we were considering the matter of electoral funding. I challenged the member for Greenough when he stood in the chamber. In due course, when the member for Bassendean grieves in this house on behalf of the residents of Bassendean, it will be to have that lovely little reserve on the river declared public open space so that people lose their private property rights to access the river, which we have discovered is just around the corner from the member’s investment property in Bassendean. I often sit here and wonder -

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr M.P. WHITELY: The member for Vasse -

Several members interjected.

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order! The member for Bassendean has raised a point of order. It is not an opportunity for all members to hurl in like a bunch of hoons. Members will hold their tongue and let the member for Bassendean get his point of order across.

Mr M.P. WHITELY: The member for Vasse is deliberately misleading this house. He knows that it is not true. I ask that he withdraw that.

Several members interjected.

Mr M.P. WHITELY: He is deliberately misleading the house. He has done it on a number of occasions.

Mr T. BUSWELL: Mr Acting Speaker, should you require me to table the information I have, I am quite happy to table a number of grievances that have been raised.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr A.P. O’Gorman): This is not a debate about the member for Bassendean, the member for Vasse or any other subject; it is a debate about daylight saving. I ask that the member turn his comments to daylight saving. There is no point of order.

Debate Resumed

Mr T. BUSWELL: I am sure that some advocates of daylight saving would suggest in Bassendean that it might be better to have daylight saving on that bit of riverside property so that people who live close to that area near Rosetta Street - 7 I think it is - could have access to the river, but who would know? I for one could not even hypothesise on things such as that.

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Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan: This sounds important. Would any member raise this -

The ACTING SPEAKER: Order! I have already ruled that there is not a point of order. The house is debating daylight saving. It is not the opportunity for a free-for-all to get into individual members in the house one way or another. I ask that members bring their comments back to the bill before us, which is the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006.

Mr T. BUSWELL: Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker, for that wise guidance. I will of course follow it dutifully. I was about to say on the matter of public funding that I would hazard a guess that if any of us contacted the members of our electorate and asked them what they thought about public funding, we would not find many people who would say yes to it. I do not raise the point to take a particular side, but I am always interested that in some instances we claim to represent the views of the people who elect us and on other occasions we do not. Quite clearly on occasions that is presented as an argument of convenience. It draws me to an interesting issue. A number of people have put to me in recent weeks that it is undemocratic for this Parliament to vote to impose daylight saving. I am sure that every member would have heard that argument. In the electorate I represent there is a lot of opposition to the introduction of daylight saving. People have said that it is undemocratic for us to introduce daylight saving in this way. It causes us to question how we can apply this concept of democracy to the debate we are having. I do not think it is undemocratic. My definition of a democracy is not one that involves polling the people of our electorate on every single issue that we wish to raise. The member for Central Kimberley-Pilbara made a very good point when he said that the challenge is to understand whether we reflect the views of our electorate on certain issues or, through the application of good public policy and sound public arguments, we seek to lead. Do we support the minority or try to listen to the silent majority? Members could adopt a range of positions. The reason that I have taken the view that I will reflect the views of my electorate is that I get a sense, which I think is driven by the historical treatment of the issue of daylight saving in this state, that there is a link between daylight saving and the concept of referenda or a plebiscite.

A strong-held belief by a large number of people in this state is that they should have a say before daylight saving is introduced. For that reason I am happy to reflect what I consider to be the views of my electorate on this matter. The information I have had in my electorate office in Busselton is that the ratio of 60 to 40 - 60 against and 40 in favour - is about where my electorate sits. I found it interesting when I went back to the results of the referendum that was held in 1992 that my electorate voted 70 to 30 against daylight saving. In a way, that change from the early 1990s to the twenty-first century reflects the changing nature of my electorate.

It is indeed the case that the people who live in the towns of Busselton and Dunsborough, which I represent, by and large have indicated to me that they are not in favour of daylight saving; therefore, I will oppose this bill. As I said in my introductory comments and as the member for Stirling indicated, to me it is not a matter of great significance and it is not a matter on which I have a strong opinion one way or other. I am happy to support the view of my electorate.

A number of members have asked me why I will oppose daylight saving when my electorate is now a more modern, progressive part of Western Australia. No longer is there a lot of rural content in my electorate. It is largely based around the towns of Busselton and Dunsborough. It is a difficult question for me to answer. At the end of the day one's support of daylight saving is driven by personal considerations. I heard members talk about daylight saving being pro family. It gave the Treasurer more time to play cricket with his boys, and I accept that. I prefer to spend time with my boys in the morning; it is one of the few times in the day that I have with them. We enjoy water sports and the best time to enjoy water sports is before the sea breeze comes in. Unfortunately, with daylight saving, the sea breeze will come in an hour later. It will impact on the way I live my life with my family. Daylight saving is a personal matter and it is not for me to justify the reason people have those views. It affects people in different ways.

I was interested to hear a couple of the points raised in this debate. The Treasurer said that daylight saving will help to make this state more energetic and engaging and a better place for tourists to visit. I accept that may be a valid argument. However, I mulled over that and asked what state in Australia would I regard as an energetic and exciting state from a tourism perspective. The answer is Queensland - the Gold Coast and Cairns.

Ms J.A. Radisich: Victoria.

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Mr T. BUSWELL: Victoria is hardly the tourism capital of Australia! I know that for the inner city, latte sipping Labor sorts, a trip to Melbourne -

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: That is what you are.

Mr T. BUSWELL: I come from a regional centre where we grind our way out of the dirt.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: I saw you sipping latte.

Mr T. BUSWELL: By the bye, I am a flat-white fellow - I cannot pronounce "latte". For a long time Queensland has been a place that people consider to be energetic, an engaging place and a successful tourism destination. To the best of my knowledge Queensland does not have daylight saving. There are arguments for and against.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: You shouldn't say that because as soon as Queenslanders realise they don't have daylight saving, its tourism industry will collapse.

Mr T. BUSWELL: If its tourism industry collapses, given the state of ours and the quality of the minister who is in charge of tourism, they will not come here. Notwithstanding that, if we want to make Perth a more dynamic city of the world and a major destination on the Indian Ocean rim we need to take a more holistic approach to delivering that outcome than through daylight saving.

Mr E.S. Ripper: Every reform counts.

Mr T. BUSWELL: The Treasurer is right - every drip fills the bucket. Some projects spring to mind that the government could deal with more expeditiously, including a multipurpose stadium. That is an interesting point. I was at the Melbourne Cricket Ground for the AFL grand final and I happened to bump into the member for Avon, who looked very excited from what I could see behind the two big beers he was carrying. We were in a magnificent stadium; it is a magnificent venue. I came back to Perth to watch *The Boy from Oz*, which was a really great show. Unfortunately, it was at the Burswood Dome, which is an atrocious venue to watch that sort of show. If we want to be an international city of substance, we need core infrastructure.

In closing, I touch on one other point. The member for Perth talked about the Luddites. The Treasurer would be aware that I have a background in economics. I did a fair bit of study on economic history. I was very interested in the Luddites. The Treasurer accused the member for Hillarys of being a Luddite. Before I sit down, I want to mount a defence for the member for Hillarys. Quite clearly, he is not a Luddite.

Mr E.S. Ripper: He's a neo-Luddite.

Mr T. BUSWELL: No, he is not a neo-Luddite either. The Treasurer may remember that the Luddites were formed out of the textile industry in the United Kingdom in the early 1800s. The Luddites were highly paid craftsmen who made stockings and the like. All of a sudden they introduced these wide-spinning looms. The price competition forced a lot of the craftsmen out of jobs. They formed into paramilitary groups in the early 1800s. They carried out machine breaking, which we now call industrial sabotage. The British Army fought the Luddites in a number of battles. I must remind the member for Perth when he returns to the house that Luddites did not oppose social change; they opposed technological change. Some people said that the Luddites were a paramilitary group that was intent on imposing a certain methodology of production - a monopoly to protect its own financial position. Some may argue that certain elements of the Australian trade union movement reflect some of the characteristics of the Luddites. The Luddites, through their attempt at sabotage and intimidation, ultimately failed. The member for Hillarys is quite clearly not a Luddite. I know he does not know a lot about how to use technology, but I have never seen him oppose the introduction of it. I thought I would add those comments for a different flair.

In closing my contribution tonight, I say that it is my view that the people of the electorate I represent are opposed to daylight saving and, accordingly, I will be opposing the bill.

MR T.R. SPRIGG (Murdoch) [10.07 pm]: I wish to make a very brief contribution to the debate on the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006. The electorate of Murdoch is in favour of a trial of daylight saving followed by a referendum. I started an inter-office survey just 10 days ago. I was initially surprised that the no vote was winning. I had the impression that it would be a yes vote, as there are some reasonably younger suburbs in my

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electorate. It turned out that 63 per cent were in favour, with 35 per cent against and two per cent who did not really care one way or the other. That is a reasonable sample of the electorate. I believe this debate provides a good opportunity to represent the views of the electorate. Everybody seems to have a view on daylight saving. I will not denigrate people's views. Lots of points have been made in this place about why we should have daylight saving and why we should not. Everybody is entitled to an opinion. A lot of views have been expressed. I respect people's rights to express their views. If they think their curtains will fade if daylight saving is brought in, that is their view, and they are allowed to have that view. I do not think it behoves anybody to make fun of that situation.

The other main reason I felt I should support this trial of daylight saving - I stress that it is a trial - is that as the shadow Minister for Sport and Recreation, I am aware that we have some general issues of unfitness in the community. We are all aware of the problems of obesity and mature-onset diabetes, the general unfitness of our modern community and the fact that we are more sedentary than ever. It is my contention that more people will recreate after work than before. I know that a lot of people recreate before work, and good luck to them; I hope they can still do that. After all, it will still be daylight at about 6.00 am at the height of summer and not too many people do their recreation before that time. Again, if they take the view that that is a problem for them, I respect that view. I have surveyed as many people as I can about whether more people will recreate in the evening than in the morning. In the early 1970s I experienced daylight saving for the first time when I lived in Tasmania. It was great because in those days most people finished work at five o'clock and I could drive to the golf course, which was 20 minutes or half an hour away, and play a full 18 holes of golf before it got dark. I just thought it was fantastic to be able to do that. At that stage I thought I could play golf a bit and I was pretty keen on the game. I have subsequently found that I am never going to be any good at it so I do not play much any more. However, it was fantastic then to be able to do that recreation at that time.

I surveyed a lot of people about recreation after work as against before work and a big majority, 75 per cent to 80 per cent, believed that more people recreate after work than before. I was speaking to my physician, Dr Mark Adonis, the other day and I asked him, "Do you think more people recreate after work than before work?" He said, "Yes, I certainly do. I think after work is for recreation and before work is for procreation." I suppose that would be a doctor's view. For those reasons and the fact that my electorate is keen on this trial, and because I believe it is good for the general fitness of the community, I will be supporting the bill.

MR G.M. CASTRILLI (Bunbury) [10.11 pm]: I will take only a few minutes because I have heard it all before. I have heard nothing new in this house today or tonight, or anything different, except for the Luddites. I also want to compliment the member for Capel on some of the points he made. I thought they were very good and there were a number that I agreed with.

I want to put on record that I oppose daylight saving. I have not gone out and canvassed people on this issue. However, I have had quite a bit of feedback from telephone calls and I can say that the vast majority have been against daylight saving. I have received e-mails, and the majority of the ones that I thought were pertinent were against daylight saving. I am not counting the multitude we all got. Frankly, I must say the stuff that came through really turned me off. I did not think there was any sincerity in that. I understand the process that we went through and I appreciate that; these are only my thoughts. When I walked through shopping centres and went to functions, the majority of the people who came up to me and expressed a view were opposed to daylight saving. Yes, there were people who were for it, but the majority of the people who so far have come to me have been against it. As I said, I have not actively asked people for their views, but I have certainly had a fair bit of feedback, and most of them were opposed to it.

It is interesting that in Bunbury in the 1975 referendum, 47 per cent voted yes and 53 per cent voted no. That was when the population was 7 414. In 1983, 43 per cent said yes and 57 per cent said no; in 1992, 41 per cent said yes and 59 per cent said no. As it went on, more people were opposed to daylight saving in Bunbury and the yes vote went down. Some people would suggest that as Bunbury is a coastal town, it would surely vote yes. As I say, I have not gone out and canvassed people and I am going on the information and feedback that I have received. I have not had time to go and consult properly. I would have thought, with due respect to the two members who sponsored this bill, that if this was such an important bill - I am being serious - it would have been introduced into this house at least a month ago to give us all time to seriously consider it. I am talking about being able to canvass the people in the electorate in a meaningful way.

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Mr R.C. Kucera: You have three years to canvass them.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: Yes. However, that is how the bill has been introduced. I say to the member that, if anything, I would have supported a referendum being held first; that is, asking the people what they think, getting the information and the results back and then making a decision, yes or no. My view is that if we are to have three years of daylight saving first, all we are saying is that the people of Western Australia are dumb and they do not know what they feel about daylight saving. I do not accept that. I would like the referendum to be held first and to then make a decision. If the majority of people in my electorate said yes, they wanted daylight saving, I would say yes. My children have grown up, so, personally, it will not really affect me now.

Mr R.C. Kucera: Fifteen per cent of the voters wouldn't even know what they are voting on; they haven't experienced it.

Dr S.C. Thomas: They're the ones who sent you the e-mails.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: Yes. I would have thought that this bill should have been introduced at least a month ago to give us the appropriate time to canvass people. To me, it would have meant that this bill was a really important issue and was very high on the government's agenda. However, that has not been evident.

The member for Moore made mention of children travelling on buses for an hour and a half in his electorate and in the wheatbelt generally. I say to the member for Moore that children in my electorate do not travel on school buses for an hour and a half. However, people from Donnybrook, Harvey and other surrounding areas travel to school in Bunbury by bus every day. I know what relationship Bunbury has with the greater community outside Bunbury. I feel for those children who travel on the bus, and I also feel for other people in the community.

We have talked about Western Australian businesspeople. Yes, they will be affected by daylight saving. Some are happy to go with it and some are not. These businesspeople have been dealing with three-hour differences in time zones for years. WA businesspeople are very resilient. Can anyone tell me of a businessperson who starts work at eight o'clock in the morning and finishes at 5.00 pm? There is not one, because if there were, he would not be in business for long. Seventy-five to 80 per cent of Western Australia's production is for export. One part of Asia, that which includes China, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, is in the same time zone as Western Australia. What about the people in business who deal on a daily basis with companies overseas?

My colleague the member for Kalgoorlie advised me that daylight saving has been introduced six times in Western Australia's history. On three occasions there was a trial period and then a referendum, and the referendum was lost every time. Daylight saving has been introduced six times, and it has been lost every time.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Sorry; three times it has been lost?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: Yes, with a referendum, but daylight saving has been introduced six times in the history of Western Australia. On three occasions it has been rejected in a referendum, and on the other three occasions it has not been proceeded with. The people did not want it. If daylight saving is so good, why was it not proceeded with before?

Mr M.P. Whitely: Wasn't it wartime?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: What about 1975; what about 1983; what about 1992? If it is so fantastic -

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: Yes, but I am saying that it was discontinued, and on three of those occasions it was rejected in a referendum. If it is so good, why was it not continued? It is as simple as that.

Members talked about the energy that might be saved. That could be true. Somebody mentioned a percentage of energy savings. I do not want to get into the debate about how much energy would be saved. I will just make one point about energy. I know of places in Walpole and Denmark, and I think in the member for Moore's part of the woods as well, where development cannot proceed because there is no energy. There is no energy available for people in Walpole to subdivide. I just wanted to make that point.

Before this bill was introduced, not one person came to see me and said that he wanted me to introduce daylight saving.

Mr N.R. Marlborough: Do they come to see you about anything?

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Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I think the Minister for Small Business and I know each other. I do not think we need to progress this discussion any further; do we?

Mr N.R. Marlborough: I agree.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I think the minister and I understand each other perfectly and I think he agrees that he must stop this now.

As I said before, nobody, but nobody, came to see me before the bill was introduced and said that he or she wanted daylight saving - not one person. After the bill was introduced, all I got was an avalanche of people going berserk and saying, "What the hell do you think you're doing? Why are you doing this?" Obviously some people said yes, they wanted it. However, that was the immediate reaction. I acknowledge that the people who are vehemently opposed are the ones who will jump up and down straightaway. However, before the bill was introduced not one person came to see me and said he wanted daylight saving introduced.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Every time businesspeople come to see me, that is one of the things at the top of their list.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: To see the member for Ballajura?

Several members interjected.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I do not know about any other member -

Mr P.B. Watson: Are you speaking about the businesspeople of Bunbury or the people of Bunbury?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I am speaking about my perception of what the people of Bunbury want.

Mr P.B. Watson: But everything you have said so far has been about businesspeople. What about the people who want to go to the beach? You've got a beautiful beach there. Are you speaking just about your own business community or the people of Bunbury?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I said at the beginning of my speech that I do not want to get into the nitty-gritty of daylight saving. I have heard all those arguments before and I do not want to go over -

Mr P.B. Watson: You are not interested in what the community is thinking.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I am telling the member for Albany what the people of Bunbury are telling me. I said at the beginning of this speech that I have not canvassed them; I have not had time to. I am talking about the feedback that I am getting from people. Before this bill was introduced, as I said before, nobody came to see me.

Mr P.B. Watson interjected.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I can show the member for Albany the list of phone calls if he likes.

Mr P.B. Watson: He hasn't contacted anyone except people in the business community.

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: No, I said -

Dr S.C. Thomas interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Capel!

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: The member for Albany is not listening. I have not contacted anybody. I am talking about people contacting me because of the feedback that I am getting through my office.

Mr P.B. Watson: You haven't contacted anybody?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: For God's sake, Madam Deputy Speaker! As I said up front, I am talking about the people who have contacted me. My phone has been running hot. I go through shopping centres and people leap on me. I go to functions -

Mr P.B. Watson: How many e-mails?

Mr G.M. CASTRILLI: I do not know whether the member for Albany has been sitting in the chamber while I have been speaking. I said that I have received heaps of e-mails from my mass mail-out, probably the same number as the member for Albany received. I must tell the member for Albany that it put me off. Nobody had said to me before the bill was introduced that they wanted daylight saving. I therefore asked myself what the huge problem was in this state that we had to go to these lengths to introduce daylight saving. Is our economy

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slow? No. Is our employment down? No. The only thing that is down is tourism. Why, therefore, is daylight saving so important? Why is a debate on daylight saving so deserving of the devotion of members' time when there are crises in the state everywhere we look? There are more important things to talk about in this state than daylight saving.

MR M.J. COWPER (Murray) [10.24 pm]: I am not particularly interested in the issue of daylight saving as I believe it detracts from the issues of the day that are important to the people of the Murray electorate because they impact on their lives. They see that this government is unable to manage the Department for Community Development, education, police and health. Those are issues that my electorate wants me to pursue. Daylight saving is not one of those issues. Prior to this debate coming forward I had not had a single person tell me that he wanted me to tackle the issue of daylight saving.

Members should appreciate that the seat of Murray was the first in the Peel region. The seat of Mandurah developed later, as did the seat of Dawesville. In 1975 the voting population of Mandurah was about 7 900. Of that number 32 per cent voted yes and 67 per cent voted no in the referendum on daylight saving. In 1983 the voting population of Murray was 10 440. The electorate included Mandurah but not Dawesville. The vote was 32 per cent yes and 67 per cent no in the referendum on daylight saving. It was exactly the same. When Mandurah became a seat the vote in the referendum was 37 per cent yes and 62 per cent no. There was a similar result in both seats. History shows that the electorates of Murray and Mandurah vote virtually hand in hand on this issue: the vote was 39 per cent yes and 61 per cent no in the 1992 referendum. Clearly, the mandate for members in the Peel region is no.

This issue has been hijacked. It has been railroaded to detract from the issues at hand. For the life of me I cannot understand why this Parliament is wasting its time on this issue. If it were of such importance, it should go to a plebiscite. This has been voted on three times already. Parliamentarians of all persuasions have not done themselves any favours with this issue. They have made the community disenchanted with them. This is an issue that should be decided by the people. It should not occur after a trial. The proposal is for a three-year trial followed by a referendum. If a referendum were offered straightaway, what would be the result in my electorate? It would be a big no again. I am sure that it would be a big no across Western Australia if it were to go to a referendum today. It is interesting to note that the member for Kalgoorlie has a mandate because he has previously canvassed in his electorate that he would try to bring in daylight saving. Good on him. However, had he put up his private member's bill alone, it would have been defeated by the government. Members on the other side would have voted no. We now have an interesting marriage and a fumbling of this legislation that has manifested itself through the combination of the member for Ballajura and the member for Kalgoorlie. It is almost a hybrid bill. It is interesting that all members are given a free vote. It is my understanding that that may not be the case. It will be interesting to see how the cards fall. This debate has been steered down a particular path, which will leave the gate open for this legislation to get up. I suspect that it probably will. I have heard all the arguments for and against. I believe that many from both sides are preposterous.

I was at South Yunderup last Sunday. It is a wonderful place. I was invited there because of another matter. By chance I met an American. He was a Texan. When he realised that I was the local member of Parliament he told me that our state has to be the greatest place in the whole world - he said that with a bit of a southern drawl. I said, "How do you figure that?" He said, "If all you've got to worry about is whether you're going to put your clocks forward an hour, you've got no real problems." He is right. If we are sitting here deciding whether to put our clocks forward an hour, it makes us look very silly on the real issues. The situation almost belies the truth. The truth is that there are problems in Aboriginal communities. There are problems in all facets of Western Australian society that need attention, and it should be the business of this place to address those issues.

Some people like to get up early in the morning. They like to exercise in the morning and get going and be on their way. Various members have spoken about their experiences and what they like to do first thing in the morning. I am a morning person. When I was younger, I was a late-night person. As one gets older, the general trend is that one prefers to get up early and go to bed early. I do not know about other members, but I have difficulty staying awake after about 9.30 in the evening, given that I am up at about quarter to five most mornings. The fact is that when the sun comes up, I get up and when the sun goes down, I go home, have my dinner and go to bed.

Mr A.D. McRae: You're like a chook!

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Mr M.J. COWPER: I am exactly like a chook. I am a bit like that member. The only difference between the member and Fat Cat is that Fat Cat has friends.

Mr A.D. McRae: You've had that one lined up for a while, haven't you?

Mr M.J. COWPER: The minister left me no option; I had to lob that one back over the fence.

In the country, business gets done early, not in the heat of the day when the sea breeze comes howling through. Most people like to enjoy the morning at the beach. Certainly people in surf-lifesaving clubs enjoy the mornings at the beach, but by about mid-morning the sea breeze is in and everyone packs up and heads home. I will not speak for much longer, because this has all been said and done before. The people of my electorate have given me a mandate to say no, and to say it loudly. From the people of Murray, the answer is no.

MR N.R. MARLBOROUGH (Peel - Minister for Small Business) [10.32 pm]: I support the Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) for all the obvious reasons that have been referred to today. One of the interesting asides about my electorate is that it has a mix of varied occupations and people. Many people may not be aware that there are some 2 000 thoroughbred horses in training in the areas of Lark Hill, Baldivis, Settlers Hill -

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Don't they train the horses in the morning?

Mr N.R. MARLBOROUGH: I am coming to that. Those areas play a significant role in that industry in my area. In fact, that industry is probably the second largest employer of people, next to the retail industry, in the Peel region.

Mr A.D. McRae: Bob Maumill says that you have a bacon and egg sandwich down there occasionally.

Mr N.R. MARLBOROUGH: I was coming to that. As the member knows, I have been overseas and I have been trying to catch up with my electorate in the past week or so. I went down to one of my favourite haunts, the Lark Hill racetrack, at 5.30 on Saturday morning. I go there at that time because the trainers get there at about five o'clock or 5.30 in the morning, and I usually stay until about eight o'clock, as I did on Saturday morning. While I was there, members of the racing industry raised with me their concerns, and I want to put them on the record. The racing industry sees it as a wage problem, as well as a problem with the welfare of the animals. Normally, racehorses get fed at about four o'clock in the afternoon. The feed consists of a mixture of oats and molasses. The molasses attracts flies. People in the racing industry believe that the fly problem will be exaggerated by an earlier start. However, more importantly, they must keep the staff on until the end of the day - by definition, when the sun goes down - because that is when the horse needs a blanket over it before it lies down for the evening. It is with that background and that explanation that the horse industry said, "Norm, our preferred position is not to have daylight saving." I listened to them very carefully. I advised a number of the trainers, including my old mate Bob Maumill, whom I reminded that he had trained horses in Victoria and New South Wales where there is daylight saving, and he has won races there. He did not argue with that. I wanted to put on the record what the horse racing industry in my electorate is saying, but for all the reasons that have been indicated in this lengthy debate today, I support the legislation. The debate was started while I was overseas by my friend the member for Mindarie, and by the members for Ballajura and Kalgoorlie. I thank them for getting this on to the agenda. I personally do not think it is a political issue of any significance. Yes, it has had a lot of attraction; these sorts of things do. We do not know where politics starts and ends sometimes. It begins and ends on all sorts of issues. I am in the middle of a bit of it at the moment. This legislation is not before time, and I indicate my wholehearted support.

Mr J.E. McGrath: Despite the issues raised by the racing industry?

Mr N.R. MARLBOROUGH: Despite the issues raised by people in the racing industry, many of whom have trained in the eastern states and have lived with daylight saving, and have not lost races there.

MR M.W. TRENORDEN (Avon) [10.36 pm]: I have deliberately left my contribution to the debate to this late stage, because I am fuming. I am really angry, and my electorate is extremely angry. I have had angry people pouring in through my door for days. One close friend, whom I admire a great deal, has approached me in support of the bill, and everyone else is opposed to it.

In physics there is no such thing as time. The earth goes around the sun and rotates on its axis, and that is pretty wobbly too. We need atomic clocks to adjust time every now and then because it is not perfect. There is no

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such thing in physics as time. It might be worthwhile for people to remember that. The other thing that is making me boil is the number of e-mails that have poured into my electorate from the metropolitan area - selfish people with no empathy at all for country people. Some members opposite have said that they have seen every e-mail that has come in. How many country people e-mailed them?

Mr M.P. Whitely: Lots.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: Tell me how many.

Mr M.P. Whitely: I don't know; I haven't counted them.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: He did not count them. I would say it was a handful at best. When the Minister for Health came into this place and wanted to do something for the Aboriginal children in my community, of whom one in four, by his own statistics, was in trouble, how many e-mails did I get from the metropolitan area supporting that? Does anyone want to guess? When the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure took away road funding from my electorate, how many people from Perth e-mailed my electorate and thanked me for that? What about my schools, and my hospitals? How many people from the metropolitan area got in touch with my electorate office and supported my people?

Mr G. Woodhams: None.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: That is right - none. However, they have the arrogance to say that their lifestyle is more valuable than that of my constituents. I will not have a bar of that.

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: If the member for Bassendean wants to bite, he need just interject, and I will bite his head off. I am angry. There is absolutely no way that this should happen. I am sorry the member for Nedlands is not in the chamber now. She quoted a few figures for the seat of Wagin and her own electorate from the last referendum. I suspect that if a referendum were held in my electorate today, the figures would be overwhelmingly against daylight saving. Do members want to know why? I will tell them why. Unfortunately for me and some other members, my electorate is close to the metropolitan area and my constituents listen to talkback radio. They listen to city people denigrating country people on a daily basis when they refer to fading curtains, cows and dust bowls. Do members think that my constituents are getting angry about the way that they are being talked about? They certainly are. Do members think that they are becoming distant from city people as a result of what is being said about them? They certainly are. The issue is not about only daylight saving; indeed, it is about a great deal more. Members who laugh off this matter - many members have been laughing off this matter - would do well to consider what they are doing to the great state of Western Australia. Frankly, I do not mind debating the issue of daylight saving. However, I do mind enormously the denigration of my people. My electorate, like other members' electorates, is a great electorate. I love the people in my electorate. I do not want to see them hurt. Many people in my electorate will vote against daylight saving not because they do not want daylight saving, but because they feel that their views are being tossed in the rubbish bin by members of Parliament. They no longer count in the general mathematics of the state. That is not acceptable. Let us have the debate about daylight saving - the debate is not the issue. The issue is about caring about country people.

Country people feel strongly about a raft of issues. We have had hours of debate in this place about protecting children. Country people want to protect their children. That is not a perceived position; it is a known position. One issue is about kids being on buses; some are on buses on for an hour and a half. I refer to the question of obesity. In country towns many children are involved in sport immediately after school. If those children cease to take part in sport immediately after school because it is too hot, they will not be able to wait until it cools down, because most people have to travel some distance to get home. Country kids have to go somewhere else because they live somewhere else. The argument about obesity and the like is a nonsense for many country towns. The introduction of daylight saving will mean that parents will pick up their children after school - or they will pick them up as soon as the bus drops them off in their home town - and take them home. The reality is that some country children - not all of them because nothing is holistic in this argument - will be involved in fewer sporting activities and will receive less social contact.

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Mr J.B. D'Orazio: What about the quality of family time?

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: How will that happen?

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: Parents will pick up their kids and spend time with them.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: The member for Ballajura knows that I like him; I do not want to bite his head off. There happens to be 24 hours in a day. The family-time argument is a nonsense. This issue is about lifestyle and it is about being selfish.

Another thing about this place that has amused me - given my anger tonight I have probably been a member of this place for too long - is the passionate debates in this house by members from both sides of the chamber about the central business district being emptied because companies were heading to the eastern states. AMP and a range of other companies that had been in Western Australia for decades packed up and went east. Why did they go east? They went east because it was argued that companies had to go east to do business. What has happened in Western Australia to this government's credit - that is what it keeps telling us - and on this government's watch? Woodside, a major, worldwide operation, is located in the CBD of Perth. Further, Rio Tinto, BHP and a raft of new companies are bringing vibrancy to this state by establishing Western Australian headquarters. Many members have argued that it is absolutely critical that we talk to the eastern states. What nonsense! What drivel! I agree with some members that the argument about time zones is somewhat fallacious. It is more important that we stay in the time zone that governs seven out of 10 major growing economies. House prices and lifestyle costs have increased in Western Australia because of our trade with Asia.

Mr M.J. Birney: Member for Avon, an overwhelming majority of small to medium-sized businesses in WA buy their stock from Sydney and Melbourne. About four to five per cent of businesses deal daily with Asia while 90 to 95 per cent deal daily with the eastern states.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: That is nonsense. Ten years ago in my electorate the business of selling chaff, hay and oats to Asia was worth about \$40 million. I do not know what it is worth now, but it would be well over \$100 million.

Mr M.J. Birney interjected.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: The member has had his say. A raft of produce that comes out of my electorate is Asian bound, which creates wealth and jobs in my electorate. It is basically what my electorate is about. People in my electorate deal with Asia. They do not sell hay or oats to Sydney or Melbourne; they sell it to Asia.

Mr M.J. Birney: Do farmers sell direct to Asia?

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: Of course they do; they export. Only a few weeks ago I went to Asia with an individual from my electorate who exports grain to Asia. People are allowed to export wheat in container-sized lots. The member for Kalgoorlie needs to learn a bit about the argument. I and the individual from my electorate visited a flour mill in Asia, where I was told a couple of the issues quite clearly. I was told that oats from Western Australia, produced from about York to Boyup Brook, are the best oat grain in the world. This miller deals directly with the Grain Pool. I did not know that the subject of daylight saving was going to be raised. I was not asking him about daylight saving. He volunteered the information to me. He also volunteered information about Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd and how CBH is at risk with the six mills it has in Asia and how Western Australian farmers should be very cautious about CBH, but that is another argument for another day.

Members have raised a raft of issues in this debate. They are all important. However, the facts are that some of the passion in the yes vote does not make a lot of sense. If we really wanted to work on the infrastructure of Western Australia, we would extend the time during which people go to work so that the highways are not clogged up for an hour and a half in the morning and an hour and a half at night. The peak traffic would be spread over two and a half hours. That would be the logical answer, and that debate has been had before. We could save millions of dollars in infrastructure costs if we thought those processes through. This debate is not about small business or about big business; it is about lifestyle. My good colleague talked about Caligula and his horse. The facts are that when people get arrogant, lazy and selfish, they start going downhill. History shows that most nations with a policing role, such as the United States of America has at the moment, last about 200

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years. The Roman Empire lasted for a fair bit longer, but most nations with that role last about 200 years. Why do they fail? It is because they get selfish and inward looking, and do not look at the whole process. Many people in the metropolitan area are ignoring country people. They are writing them off as ignorant people, and saying so.

I hope that the Minister for Education and Training will make a commitment to allow schools to open an hour later. The facts are that children will be on school buses, as has been said before, for an hour and a half and they will be travelling in the middle of the day, but the difference between where I live and where you live, Madam Deputy Speaker, is that kids walk home where I live. Parents do not go to pick them up, because it is safe -

Mr R.C. Kucera: It is the choice of the school. They are already doing it in the Pilbara where my sister teaches.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: They are not in the Avon district.

Mr R.C. Kucera: It is the choice of the schools.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: It is not the choice of the schools. If one of the schools in my electorate decided to open an hour later, the regional director would be down on it immediately.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: The legislation allows it.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: The legislation might allow it but would the Minister for Education and Training allow it? The facts are that many country kids take a bus trip and then walk home. The Minister for Disability Services knows that it is true because he has done it himself.

Mr R.C. Kucera: Many of the working parents whose children attend Kyilla Primary School, which is in my electorate, drop off their kids. They do that anyway. It is their choice.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: I will not say what the teachers in Avon do. What they do is mixed. A huge number of people car pool daily. I will not get into that argument, mainly because I have a lot of respect for teachers. They do a tough job. In some of the schools in my electorate they do it under very difficult circumstances. I do not want to get into an argument about teachers because that is a debate that we perhaps should not be having at this stage. The point is that consideration must be given to the children in the regions and in the wheatbelt, which is where I live. Some members in ministerial positions must tell us how we can address that. The member for Ballajura's bill may provide for that. However, he has been here long enough to know that that does not necessarily mean it will happen.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio: People like you can put pressure on the minister.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: I certainly will, and it is important for me to do so. The most passionate people who are opposing this legislation, for reasons other than those I spoke about earlier, are the parents who are concerned about their children. That is the number one issue in my electorate. People are angry about it because they are being treated as second-class citizens. Those who talk about the factual process of daylight saving are mostly concerned about the fact that their children will be exposed to more daylight. I am a great gardener. I love gardening, although I do not do it often enough. I stand on my front lawn and see children walk up and down my road constantly. Their parents do not have to take them to sport or to school. The children walk to school. That happens in our community. It is different from what happens in the member for Ballajura's community, but it must be taken into consideration because this proposal is causing a huge amount of angst in my community.

Another matter that gets up my nose is a serious problem for us all. Very few policies are driven by the people of Western Australia, and people are getting sick of it. These days policy is developed by the executive. One of the problems in this place is that many times bills are introduced into this chamber and only 20 or 40 people know the detail of them and the rest of the people have no knowledge of them.

Mr M.P. Whitely: In this case the bill has been introduced by an Independent member and a member of the Liberal Party.

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Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: It came out of the blue. I do not intend to denigrate people, but I could say a bit against both members, whom I am not personally opposed to. What the member said is nonsense. We could talk about Brian Burke and all the things that I think have happened here.

Mr J.B. D'Orazio interjected.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: I do not want to argue with the member, but I do not think he will convince me. The member for Churchlands said that this is the bacon bill, and she is right. This is the save the bacon of the ALP bill. I am surprised that the member for Kalgoorlie is driving the show. We had the Labor Party on the ropes for a few weeks. What are we talking about now? Daylight saving. What did we talk about last week? Daylight saving. What is the public interested in? Daylight saving. Ministers are wiping their brows and thanking heaven that it happened. I know how it happened. There are some great operators in the ALP who have played this trick before. I have been here since 1986. The person who did it best was Brian Burke. He did not use the issue of daylight saving, but he used a lot of other tricks.

Mr P.D. Omodei: He did use daylight saving.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: That was just after he resigned. He raised issues such as ripping 10 per cent off the fat cats at a time when he was giving superannuation to two or three people. I heard a few members interject about superannuation earlier. There was a time when the Premier of the day, Brian Burke, needed to get rid of a few old timers in the old guard of the ALP and so he changed the superannuation scheme to suit them. To get that superannuation proposal off the decks, he cut 10 per cent off the wages of the fat cats. What did we talk about at that time? We talked about the 10 per cent pay cut for the fat cats! How long did that last? It lasted a nanosecond! It lasted long enough for Brian Burke to get himself off the front page of the paper and out of a problem!

All members in this chamber know that the Labor Party was under some pressure last week. The government was certainly under some pressure last week. That pressure is not evident now. I dare say it will not be evident until March. I have to tell members, that disappoints me enormously.

I need to ask the question, because my constituents are asking me this. Will this be the way of the future? Every time people in the city feel itchy and scratch themselves, will country people have to put on the bandaid?

[Member's time extended.]

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: Will this be the way of the future? I am very sure that a good percentage of the people who are telling me they do not want daylight saving are talking about that very issue. They are talking about the disconnect. They are talking about how city people do not seem to understand how different life is in the country. We live under a raft of different conditions. They include having to pay extra for food and fuel. I could run through the whole process. We hear people in the city bleating about those issues. Whatever pain city people may be feeling, in whatever suburb they may be living in Perth -

Mr M.P. Whitely: Then move! If it is that bad, move!

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: This is precisely the contempt and the arrogance that people like the member display! Let everyone move to Perth! That will solve all our problems!

Mr R.C. Kucera: Have you been to Lahore?

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: I actually went to Istanbul many years ago, in a year when one million people had moved from the country into the city. Do members think that caused a problem in Turkey? Do they think it caused just a smidgeon of a problem? The member for Bassendean wants no-one to live beyond his electorate. That is as far out as people should live. The country is a dust bowl. The people out there are ignorant. The people out there do not deserve to have a say. The people out there do not deserve to have any roads or schools.

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: That is the member's view.

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected

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Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: I will say one thing about the member for Bassendean. He is consistent. The member for Bassendean has a hatred of country people, and he should be condemned for it. The member for Bassendean argued throughout the debate on one vote, one value. He constantly interjected throughout that process. The member for Bassendean has a contempt for country people, and he should be damned for it. The member for Bassendean has a contempt for country people - not that they worry about him, because they have never even heard of him!

The people in my electorate want to hear that there will be a bit of equity in this process. They want to hear that they will be able to get some of the things that city people get on a permanent basis. Do members think country people get annoyed when they drive along the streets of Perth and see roundabouts with roses and bougainvillea growing out of them, and all they have is gravel roads? I know, member for Bassendean! They do not have the numbers! They do not deserve to have that money spent on them, do they? The member for Bassendean has said that if they do not want to live in the country, they should go and live in Bassendean. That is the member for Bassendean's view. It has been his view all along. He has a contempt for country people. He does not understand one iota about country people.

Mr M.P. Whitely interjected.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: What a joke that is! Tell me what has been done so far! Give me one example!

Mr M.P. Whitely: It is your speech, but go on. You are just whinging. They do not want rose gardens in the country! No-one has come to me and said, "I do not want gravel roads. I want city rose gardens."

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: This is a fact. I have been thinking about cancelling my subscription to *The Weekend Australian*. As a number of members have said, I love to read the newspaper early in the morning. I used to love to read *The Weekend Australian*. However, when I read *The Weekend Australian* now, I think I may as well be reading about Mars! *The Weekend Australian* refers to things in Sydney and Melbourne that are so different from those in Perth that I may as well be reading about another planet. The decisions that are referred to and the processes that take place in those cities do not apply to my electorate. My electors are starting to ask whether that same divide between country and city people will be fostered in this state. I know a lot of city people and I will not accuse city people of being deliberately anti-country. However, in their demand for services and whatever else they want, they are disregarding country people and country people are very upset about that. I attended a local government meeting with the member for Moore on Monday. One of the core issues debated at that meeting was how local government can be heard. The meeting debated for most of the day the question of how it can be heard

Mr R.C. Kucera: How many country cabinet meetings did you hold when you were in government?

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: That is a huge, important issue. I will have to think about it and sweat on the answer in case it is wrong. What a load of nonsense! Who cares? Cabinet met at Northam and people enjoyed the interaction with ministers, but what did it leave behind? Empty cool drink cans; it did not give anything to the Northam people. However, the people at the Grass Valley Tavern enjoyed the ministers' company, and that is good. I do not dislike members opposite; in fact, I like most of them. I will have a joke, laugh and a beer with them. However, on this bill there is a difference between us, and it is important. Members opposite must bear in mind that in their drive to meet what is important to them they cannot leave everyone else behind. They must bring everyone together.

I was lucky to be given the opportunity to visit China a couple of years ago and I was privileged to attend a number of high-powered meetings with people from Woodside, the Commonwealth Bank and BHP. The constant message we got from the Chinese delegations, which included ministers of the Chinese government, was how we could help them to help the people of inland China. There are two economies in China - one on the coast, which is doing well, and the other in the inland areas, which is doing badly. They have a rule that people in inland China cannot leave their community because otherwise everyone would go to the coast. They remain conscious of what happened in the 1948 revolution.

It is not clear to members opposite that they need to give consideration to people who do not live in Perth. Perth is a wonderful place and I will defend it wherever I go. It is a wonderful city and I want to live close to it. I am concerned about the divide that is occurring between city and country people. If members want to write off my

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comments as nonsense, they should listen to talkback radio. As a country member, I listen to a lot of talkback radio. A straw poll would show that 10 to 15 per cent of metropolitan people are clearly antirural. That can only do us a huge amount of damage. Some members opposite are antirural. How much was allocated to the seats of Avon, Merredin and Wagin in the last budget? The answer is nothing. In the last budget the electorate of Avon was not even mentioned.

Mr G. Snook: You should come to the electorate of Moore. It got half of that!

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: That is the point, member for Moore. Country people are asking whether they will have to learn to live with the fact that every time Perth wants something, they will have to wear it.

Mr G.M. Castrilli: One vote, one value.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: Yes, all those issues. We have this hub-and-spoke argument about the health system. If we live 100 kilometres from a health service, we should be happy. The government is of the view that if it is in the city, it is a service, but if it is in the country, it is a cost.

People were talking about trains in Northam earlier this week. I asked them whether, if they catch the train from Wanneroo to Perth, people count them on the train and say, "Whoops, that's too many people; no-one else can get on because the budget has been met." That is exactly what happens in the Avon. Public transport has been absolutely full for the past few weeks.

Mr M.P. Whitely: How much is the subsidy per person?

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: About half what it is for city people.

Mr M.P. Whitely: Per passenger?

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: It is less than half.

Mr M.P. Whitely: Rubbish.

Mr M.W. TRENORDEN: The member for Bassendean hates country people. He has a passionate dislike for country people. It could not possibly be true that he is the person I am talking about! He denies it every time. He has been doing it for as long as he has been in this chamber. He throws a large bucket of cold water on anything to do with the country. Country people are concerned about what I said a few minutes ago. If it is in the city, it is a service and should be paid for. If it is in the country, it is a cost. The divide is enormous. Members may have worked out that I will oppose this bill.

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah - Minister for Community Development) [11.06 pm]: I want to be very brief because if we had daylight saving, it would be after midnight. I applaud the member for Avon. I have a great deal of admiration for him because he comes from my home town. I have a great admiration for people in the wheatbelt, having been born and bred there. I understand with great passion what the member for Avon and all the country members have said.

I need to talk about my electorate. I took note of your comments, Mr Acting Speaker (Mr M.J. Cowper), and those of the member for Dawesville, and I acknowledge the views expressed. I will support this legislation. I will be one of three in our region who will support it. Obviously, the member for Dawesville and you, Mr Acting Speaker, will oppose it. I was a little disappointed that the member for Dawesville said that he would vote against the legislation but that he hoped that it would go through the upper house so that there would be a trial. That is a good example of sitting on the fence. I accept his point of view.

We have to take our electorates into account. Fourteen years ago the population of the City of Mandurah was half what it is now. It is the fastest growing region in Western Australia. It is a region that has great opportunity, is now attracting a range of new business opportunities and is focusing on tourism as an important economic driver. More than 50 per cent of Mandurah residents were not there 14 years ago, and many are young families. They live in all our electorates. The member for Dawesville would know this. My electorate has the most older people in it. It has more people aged over 60 than do other electorates.

Dr K.D. Hames: Is that right?

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Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: Yes, indeed.

Dr K.D. Hames: I have 27 per cent.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: In terms of the boundary, it is. We need to understand that the population of the Peel region and the City of Mandurah has changed. I think it is time that the people have another go at this issue and another say. The Daylight Saving Bill (No. 2) 2006 allows them to revisit this issue, given that our electorates have changed massively in the 14 years since the last referendum and trial. It has changed hugely since the 1971 referendum when Mandurah - it was not a city or a town then; it was actually a shire or a municipality - had a population of fewer than 4 000 people. It was not even a seat in its own right; it was part of the seat of Murray then. Times have changed. We have to be bold and modern in our economy and the way in which we approach this issue. It is time we gave the people of Western Australia the opportunity to revisit this issue, have a trial and then make a decision.

I take into account the comments of the member for Avon because I know that this legislation creates a difficulty for country people. I voted in the 1986 referendum - it was one of the first times I voted - when I was a teacher in Three Springs, and I voted no. I think I was the only Labor voter in Three Springs at the time. We had a state or federal election and I remember good friends of mine from Three Springs who were the Liberal or National Party scrutineers said to me years later, "Now we know who that Labor voter was in town; it was you, Templeman."

I will not prolong this. We have to understand that the population of Mandurah and Peel has changed rapidly. It is more than double what it was when the last referendum was held. It is time for us to be bold and it is time to give the people another opportunity to trial daylight saving and then have their say at the end of that. I see no problem with that. I believe if city people are attacking country people, it is abhorrent and absolutely unacceptable. Those of us who are from the country and who have a different opinion about daylight saving still need to remind ourselves that country people are important. I support the member for Avon's comments about the negative attitude that some people hold.

Several members interjected.

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN: I am a country boy at heart but I will support this bill because my electorate needs to have another go at it.

MR M.J. BIRNEY (Kalgoorlie) [11.11 pm]: I rise to close the debate and in doing so I would like to thank all members for their contributions, both for and against. They have made a particularly good contribution to this debate. It is also fair to say that debates that involve a free vote are a good exercise in politics. They allow people to be convinced, or allow us to convince others, and the strength of an argument actually holds a bit of weight, whereas ordinarily the strength of a good argument is lost on the party political system. I genuinely thank all members for their contributions to the debate.

I have heard it said by members in this chamber and by radio commentators and others that there are more important issues that the Parliament of Western Australia should be dealing with. Although it is true that there are other important issues around, whether it is water, health or education, I have to say that in all the time I have been in politics, some six years or so, I have never received 4 000 contacts from the public on any issue. We have dealt with some pretty difficult issues in this Parliament. We have dealt with such things as living wills, whereby we will essentially allow people to end their own lives. I think I probably got about 20 e-mails on living wills. We dealt with the one vote, one value legislation, which in effect decimates country Western Australian electorates. I think I probably got 20 or 25 e-mails on the topic. On the topic of daylight saving I received some 4 000 e-mails, the overwhelming majority of which were in favour of daylight saving. Members should not kid themselves. This is an issue that affects every Western Australian in this state because it dictates to them how they will or will not live their lives. Members should not be fooled by radio commentators and others who are saying that this is a non-issue, it is not important and nobody particularly cares about it. When we get 4 000 e-mails on one issue, we can rest assured that the public does care about the issue.

I have heard it said also that we have had three prior referenda on the topic of daylight saving, and that in itself is an argument to not have another one. If in fact that were a good argument, referendum 2 and referendum 3 would never have taken place. The reality is that the legislators of the day have an obligation, and indeed a

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responsibility, to continually test public opinion on issues such as this. Clearly, this is an emotive issue. It is an issue that has solicited a massive response from the public of Western Australia. That is why we have that obligation or that responsibility to continually test public opinion by way of another referendum.

The reality is that, over time, our lifestyles change, our views change, our values change and our working patterns change.

Dr S.C. Thomas: If this proposal goes ahead and daylight saving is approved by referendum, would you support a referendum again every 10 years after that to continue to test the waters, or having succeeded in getting it in, would that be the end of the argument?

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I would not be averse to it. If there appeared at least to be a strong sentiment in the public in 10 or 14 years that daylight saving was not working, I certainly would not be averse to the idea of putting the question again. I say again that our lifestyles change. Every 10, 12, 14 or 15 years our lifestyles change. I will give a great example. Fourteen years ago people were not working a 12-hour shift in my electorate; they were working an eight-hour shift. When people knocked off, they would go down to the pub for a couple of beers after work, and all the pubs were full. Then people would go home, and they would still have a bit of time to kick the footy around with the young bloke or sit on the porch with the wife and have a drink and a chat, as the case may be. Sadly, rightly or wrongly, people are now working 12-hour shifts. Therefore, a lot of people in my electorate and in other electorates in country areas around Western Australia do not get home until it is dark. Those people are saying to me, and I know to others, that they would relish the opportunity to spend some quality outdoor time with their kids and their families when they get home from work. I say again that 14 years ago people did not work those 12-hour shifts. That is one classic example of why we should continue to test public opinion on issues such as daylight saving.

The reality is that we are a whole new generation of people. Country people do not necessarily think the same way that they did, say, 14 years ago. The greatest example of that is that man in the pink shirt sitting at the back of the chamber. He is the Leader of the National Party, and he supports daylight saving. Fourteen years ago it would have been unfathomable for the Leader of the National Party, the party that purports to represent farmers, to be not only wearing a pink shirt, but also supporting daylight saving. People just would not have thought about that. However, the reality is that the Leader of the National Party in Western Australia today holds the personal view that daylight saving is a good thing. Therefore, I would have thought that it would be reasonable to assume that some other people in those country electorates, particularly the one that the member for Merredin represents, might also hold that view. The member for Merredin is a country boy. What town does he live in?

Mr T.R. Sprigg: Corrigin.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: He lives in Corrigin. Why would there not be other people in Corrigin who also think that daylight saving is a good thing? While I am on the subject of the National Party, I must say, with the greatest of respect to my friends in the National Party, many of whom I like - probably all of whom I like - that I do not think their feigned indignation will go very far. I have spoken to them, and most of them say that they think daylight saving is a good thing. Admittedly, the member for Avon is the exception; he is violently against the notion, and good luck to him. However, most of the others are reasonable-thinking individuals. Most of them have families, and most of them can see the benefit of daylight saving. That is why most of the National MPs in this chamber support daylight saving. However, they will not vote for it because they believe their electorates do not want it. Of course that is a matter for those National Party members of Parliament. However, if the majority of the National Party MPs in the Parliament of Western Australia believe daylight saving is a good thing, why would other country people not believe that?

Mr T.K. Waldron: The member ought to be more careful. You asked me and, as I said in my speech, I said that I had an open mind on all things and I had an open mind on this. I didn't say that I supported daylight saving. You just want to be a little careful about what you're saying. I said that I had an open mind and I listen to my electorate. I said that in my speech. You had better be careful about what you're saying, because that's not quite right.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I deliberately was not going to quote what the member for Wagin said to me, because we had a reasonably private conversation. However, now that he has raised the issue, when I asked him whether he would vote yes in a referendum, he said yes.

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Mr T.K. Waldron: No, I did not.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: The member for Wagin did say that to me.

Mr T.K. Waldron: No, I did not.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I was standing just behind the Chair there. I was not going to mention it, but the member for Wagin did say that to me. In fact, what he actually said was, "A few years ago I might not have but nowadays yes, I would."

Mr T.K. Waldron: No, I said to you that when I had kids, I didn't like daylight saving.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: However, now you'll vote for it.

Mr T.K. Waldron: But now that I haven't got younger kids, it's not as important to me. However, I didn't say to you - I want to put this on the record because I think you are misstating what I said - that I would vote for daylight saving. I want to say now that I probably would not vote for daylight saving if it came to a referendum.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I was not going to say this publicly but the member for Wagin has raised it: only half an hour ago I stood behind the Chair and asked him the question and he said, "Yes." However, he has put on the record that he intends to vote against the bill, and I am sure that his electorate will appreciate it.

Mr T.K. Waldron: You were on radio today, as I understand it, saying that the leader of the Nationals was going to vote for daylight saving.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I did not say any such thing.

Mr T.K. Waldron: Good, nor did I say what you just said I said. Get my point? Be careful.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: The difference between the two different conversations is that mine was recorded on radio and can be proved; unfortunately, the member for Wagin's cannot. I did not say that. I said that the member for Merredin personally supports daylight saving, and I am not saying anything that he has not said publicly himself. I am genuinely not saying that to cause the member for Wagin any grief.

Mr T.K. Waldron: Why don't you talk about the issue? Why are you making it personal?

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I am asking after all these years, 14 years on, how a National Party MP could think that daylight saving was a good thing. I will tell the member for Wagin. It is because the Nationals are reasonable people, and there are other reasonable people in their electorates.

Mr T.K. Waldron: Does the member know that people have come into my office during the debate who agree with daylight saving? They are good people and they have reasons for agreeing. As I said in my speech, it is a very personal thing, I reckon. You have to listen to what the people are telling you and make a judgment for your electorate.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: Sure.

Mr T.K. Waldron: Mine is pretty straightforward; as I said, it is an overwhelming no.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: Okay. The member for Wagin will vote against the bill and his electorate may or may not appreciate that. The point I am simply trying to make is that there are National Party people who think it is a good idea; we have moved on. That is the point I am trying to make: after 14 years we have moved on as a state.

I will give a very quick potted history of my involvement with daylight saving. When I went into my very first election campaign, I said publicly - in fact, I put it in print - that I would do everything I possibly could to bring about daylight saving in Western Australia if the people in that electorate voted for me. History records that the Liberal Party won that seat for the first time ever. That is another example of how we have moved on. There are people in country areas now who are passionately in favour of daylight saving.

Mr M.W. Trenorden interjected.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I accept that there are still some people who are against it and, of course, members will exercise their vote on the issue accordingly.

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The issue moved on a bit, and I guess about two to two and a half years ago I took a bit of a straw poll of all members of Parliament. I asked them privately their view on daylight saving. I have to say that I was astounded to learn that, from memory, around 70-odd per cent - it might have been about 80 per cent - of members of this chamber supported daylight saving. I did not go public with that straw poll, because it was a private conversation that I had had with nearly every member of the chamber, although I did have a list of all the members who were in favour and all the members who were against. However, the poll indicated to me that most members of this chamber are in favour of daylight saving. Therefore, following on from that, I indicated that I would bring in a private member's bill, and members might recall that there was a fair bit of publicity attached to that at the time. Subsequent to me saying that - I had started to draft a bill - it became pretty evident that the government of the day was not going to allow a bill to pass through this house, notwithstanding the fact that about 85 per cent of the state cabinet was in favour of daylight saving. I understand that it was a political call made at the time - Dr Geoff Gallop said it. I put the bill in my bottom drawer. About three months ago I resurrected the bill as I had a bit more time on my hands than I had previously. I made the decision that I would move forward with the bill and that I would seek the support of my party room in getting a free vote for Liberal Party members. I also intended to ask the Labor Party whether it would consider a free vote for its members. As it turned out, the member for Ballajura was also in the process of drafting a private member's bill. We ultimately got together and agreed on the terms and conditions of the bill. The result was the bill I presented a couple of days ago, which was co-sponsored by the member for Ballajura. I thank the member for his input and his bipartisan approach to the issue.

There are some arguments that I should dispel quickly. I have heard members say that daylight saving is no good for schoolchildren returning home in the heat of the day. Most schools finish at about three o'clock or 10 past three in the afternoon. Under a daylight saving regime, the schoolchildren would effectively be going home at two o'clock in the afternoon. The argument is that that would be the hottest part of the day.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: That is not the argument. If you are going to rebut an argument, get it right. You have to add on an hour or an hour and a half to when the children are getting off the school buses, which is about four o'clock.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: It may come as a surprise to the member that my speech does not revolve around the member's speech.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: It has been drivel from the time you started.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: Some people have made the argument -

Mr M.W. Trenorden: This is one of the worst rebuttals I have heard.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I am not rebutting the member's argument. The member is irrelevant to me.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: You ignore the rules of this chamber. You should sit down and call this off.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I do not think so. Some people have made the argument that, when schools knock off, under daylight saving children will be walking home during the hottest part of the day. I will give the house some facts. The argument is true for some days in some months. On other days in other months the argument is not true.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Yes; in July it does not count.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: It certainly counts in February. On 13 February this year at three o'clock in the afternoon the temperature was 34.1 degrees. At two o'clock in the afternoon on the same day it was 33.8 degrees. Under a daylight saving regime -

Mr M.W. Trenorden: What was the temperature at four o'clock?

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: It was 32.7 degrees - why?

Mr M.W. Trenorden: It was cooler.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: So?

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Because that is when the kids are in the sun.

Extract from Hansard
[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 31 October 2006]
p7886b-7952a

Mr John Kobelke; Mr Colin Barnett; Mr Paul Omodei; Ms Dianne Guise; Mr Rob Johnson; Mr John D'Orazio; Mr John Quigley; Ms Katie Hodson-Thomas; Mr Brendon Grylls; Mr Ben Wyatt; Mr John Day; Mr Bob Kucera; Dr Elizabeth Constable; Mr Eric Ripper; Mr Tom Stephens; Acting Speaker; Mr John McGrath; Mr Alan Carpenter; Mr Dan Barron-Sullivan; Mr Peter Watson; Dr Janet Woollard; Ms Jaye Radisich; Dr Kim Hames; Mr John Hyde; Mr Martin Whitely; Mr Gary Snook; Dr Steve Thomas; Mr Terry Waldron; Mrs Judy Hughes; Ms Sue Walker; Mr Fran Logan; Mr Terry Redman; Mr Grant Woodhams; Mr Troy Buswell; Mr Trevor Sprigg; Mr John Castrilli; Mr Murray Cowper; Mr Norm Marlborough; Mr Max Trenorden; Mr David Templeman; Mr Matt Birney

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: Okay.

Mr M.W. Trenorden: Sit down and save the time of the chamber!

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr M.J. Cowper): Order! Thank you, member for Avon.

Mr M.J. BIRNEY: I think he has stopped taking his pills!

The point I am trying to make is that people who say that children will be going home in the heat of the sun at effectively two o'clock in the afternoon are only partially correct. It is true for some days in some months. It is not true on other days in other months. On 20 February this year at three o'clock in the afternoon it was 36.5 degrees. At two o'clock on the same afternoon it was 35.4 degrees. Under daylight saving children would be going home when the temperature was slightly cooler. I could go through more examples but I think that members get the message.

In finishing, I thank the member for Ballajura. I also thank the government for letting this bill pass. We needed a message from the Governor as the bill requires the expenditure of money. I am pleased to say that the government was able to provide that message. I thank all members. This is a historic day for Western Australia. It just might be the day that starts a process that will ultimately see daylight saving become a reality in Western Australia. One of the passions I have had for a long time for Western Australia is to paint the state as the lifestyle state. I have said recently that we should paint the state as a place where living is an experience rather than just a state of existence. We have the best beaches, the best climate, the best river and the best country areas. We have the best of everything in the country, but our ability to enjoy those natural assets is somewhat limited by the fact that we do not have daylight saving. Although daylight saving will not fix everything, it will certainly be part of the process by which to paint Western Australia as the best state in the entire country in which to live.

Question put and a division taken with the following result -

Ayes (37)

Mr C.J. Barnett	Ms K. Hodson-Thomas	Ms S.M. McHale	Mr D.A. Templeman
Mr D.F. Barron-Sullivan	Mrs J. Hughes	Mr N.R. Marlborough	Ms S.E. Walker
Mr M.J. Birney	Mr J.N. Hyde	Mr A.P. O'Gorman	Mr P.B. Watson
Mr J.J.M. Bowler	Mr J.C. Kobelke	Mr P.D. Omodei	Mr M.P. Whitely
Mr A.J. Carpenter	Mr R.C. Kucera	Mr J.R. Quigley	Dr J.M. Woollard
Dr E. Constable	Mr F.M. Logan	Ms M.M. Quirk	Mr B.S. Wyatt
Mr J.H.D. Day	Ms A.J.G. MacTiernan	Ms J.A. Radisich	Mr S.R. Hill (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr J.B. D'Orazio	Mr J.A. McGinty	Mr E.S. Ripper	
Dr J.M. Edwards	Mr M. McGowan	Mr T.R. Sprigg	
Mrs D.J. Guise	Mr J.E. McGrath	Mr T.G. Stephens	

Noes (14)

Mr T.R. Buswell	Mr A.D. McRae	Mr G. Snook	Mr G.A. Woodhams
Mr G.M. Castrilli	Mr D.T. Redman	Dr S.C. Thomas	Dr G.G. Jacobs (<i>Teller</i>)
Mr B.J. Grylls	Mrs M.H. Roberts	Mr M.W. Trenorden	
Dr K.D. Hames	Mr A.J. Simpson	Mr T.K. Waldron	

Pair

Mr P.W. Andrews

Mr R.F. Johnson

Question thus passed.

Bill read a second time.

Leave granted to proceed forthwith to third reading.

Third Reading

Bill read a third time, on motion by **Mr M.J. Birney**, and transmitted to the Council.
