

**RETAIL TRADING HOURS AMENDMENT (JOONDALUP SPECIAL TRADING PRECINCT) BILL  
2009**

*Introduction and First Reading*

Bill introduced, on motion by **Mr T.R. Buswell (Minister for Commerce)**, and read a first time.

Explanatory memorandum presented by the minister.

*Second Reading*

**MR T.R. BUSWELL (Vasse — Minister for Commerce)** [4.46 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

The bill the government is introducing today is the Retail Trading Hours Amendment (Joondalup Special Trading Precinct) Bill 2009. The purpose of this bill is to amend the Retail Trading Hours Act 1987 to do two things: firstly, to change the term “tourism precinct” to “special trading precinct”, and, secondly, to establish a new special trading precinct in Joondalup in addition to the existing precincts of Perth and Fremantle. The tourism precincts, which under this bill will now be called “special trading precincts”, were initially established in 1987. Under section 12A(1) of the act, ministerial orders can be made setting the trading hours of general retail shops within the precincts, and, under the orders currently in place, those shops in the Perth and Fremantle precincts enjoy longer trading hours than the rest of the metropolitan area. These precincts have been very popular with not only interstate and international visitors, but also Perth residents from other parts of the city who travel to the precincts to satisfy their recreational and purchasing needs.

There has been considerable social change in metropolitan Perth since the act was first introduced, especially in patterns of work, recreation and lifestyle. The Premier indicated in a speech to this house on 17 June 2009 that the government considers that the next phase in the evolution of Perth’s shopping arrangements should include the creation of a third precinct in Joondalup. This development will improve the shopping options available to residents of the northern suburbs, as well as to visitors. Joondalup has been selected as the location for the new shopping precinct because of the support provided by its local government, for geographical reasons—namely, to balance the distribution of such precincts—and because of Joondalup’s growing importance as a visitor destination. The change of the name from “tourism precinct” to “special trading precinct” reflects the fact that these precincts are used by residents as well as tourists and serve a broader range of community needs.

While Joondalup is a developing tourist destination, it is also a commercial and residential centre in the northern suburbs and it is appropriate to provide the district with the status of a special trading precinct for these reasons. It is intended that new ministerial orders will be made providing the three special trading precincts with appropriate trading hours. The government is aware of interest in Midland and Armadale also becoming special trading precincts. The case for the creation of new precincts in Midland and Armadale will be examined on their individual merits. If agreed to by the government, legislation will be introduced in the autumn session of 2010. While the government is committed to improving the range of shopping options available to residents of the Perth metropolitan area, it is also conscious of the diversity of views in this house and in the community about what changes to trading hours are desirable. The government believes that this bill will make a modest and timely improvement to the shopping opportunities available to residents of and visitors to the northern suburbs. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned, on motion by **Ms R. Saffioti**.