

STOP-AND-SEARCH LAWS

Petition

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah) [9.01 am]: On behalf of the member for Girrawheen I present a petition couched in the following terms —

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

We, the undersigned believe that the Government's plan to allow police to arbitrarily stop and search citizens is an unnecessary affront to the rights of law abiding Western Australians.

We believe that good governments should be able to combat crime effectively without resorting to draconian stop and search powers that strip rights from law abiding citizens and have no proven record in reducing crime.

We believe, as experience in the United Kingdom has shown, the laws will erode public trust in the police force, increase the potential for corruption and will be used disproportionately against young people and minority groups.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to withdraw its support for this legislation, and consider other more effective measures to reduce crime, such as community engagement and properly funding and resourcing our police force.

There are 345 signatures to this petition. I also draw to the attention of the house another petition containing 80 signatures that does not comply with the standing orders of the Legislative Assembly.

[See petition 270.]

Similar petitions were presented by **Mr A.J. Waddell** (394 signatures) and **Ms J.M. Freeman** (342 signatures).

[See petitions 272 and 273.]