

**TAXIS AND DRIVERS — ASSAULTS AGAINST — PORT HEDLAND**

*Petition*

**HON NEIL THOMSON (Mining and Pastoral)** [2.15 pm]: I present an e-petition containing 11 signatures, couched in the following terms —

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled. We the undersigned ...

Condemn the unacceptable and violent attacks by lawless youths on our taxi drivers and taxis in Port Hedland which is placing them under extreme emotional and financial pressure with massive additional costs due to regular windscreen and panel repairs. We stand in solidarity with our taxi drivers whose jobs are made unsafe and who incur massive repair bills by intolerable and unacceptable behavior of a few who should face consequences under the law.

We therefore ask the Legislative Council to support permanent increases in police numbers in Port Hedland along with the introduction of a new compensation scheme to fund repairs to cars which have been unlawfully damaged, either funded from the Taxi Industry Development Account or from Proceeds of Crime.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See paper 1462.]