

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Fifty-eighth Report — Overview of petitions 2 June 2021 to 2 December 2021 — Tabling

HON PETER FOSTER (Mining and Pastoral) [10.18 am]: I am directed to present the fifty-eighth report of the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs titled *Overview of petitions 2 June 2021 to 2 December 2021*.

[See paper [1178](#).]

Hon PETER FOSTER: The report I have just tabled advises the house of petitions that were finalised by the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs between June 2021 and December 2021. During this period, 39 petitions were referred to the committee and the committee concluded its inquiries in relation to 24 petitions. Petitions finalised during the reporting period related to a broad range of social, environmental and planning issues. For example, petitions expressed concerns about the building industry, greyhound racing, the biosecurity levy, staffing of school libraries, the ban on gel blasters, changes to the Kalgoorlie home care program and the management of Aboriginal corporations. Environmental concern was the focus of a number of petitions, including those relating to the Pinjarra aluminium refinery, Dardanup waste facility and the proposed Albany motor sport facility. Planning concerns were noted in petitions relating to the Percy Doyle Reserve and the Glen Iris golf course. There were transport concerns such as the safety of railway junctions, speed limits, sound mitigation on Mitchell Freeway and the availability of bus services. Three petitions opposing bills were tabled. The committee notes that it usually does not inquire into matters that are currently, or will imminently be, before the Legislative Council. At the end of this reporting period, the committee was continuing its inquiries into 15 open petitions.

The committee takes this opportunity to thank all tabling members and to encourage them to provide a written submission to the committee after their petition has been tabled. The committee also notes that a trial of the e-petition system will run from 1 January 2022 until 31 March 2023. Petitions can now be created on the Parliament's website and will be considered like existing paper petitions, once they have been tabled in the Legislative Council. I commend the report to the house.