

NATIONAL PARKS, ENTRY FEES

Petition

MR P.D. OMODEI (Warren-Blackwood) [4.14 pm]: I present the following petition concerning national parks, which contains 251 signatures, in the following terms -

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

National Parks Entry Fees - Warren Blackwood

We the undersigned being residents of Western Australia seek to have all people in the Warren Blackwood district treated equally with regard to entry into National Parks.

As the State Government is aware policy to pay for entry into National Parks was changed after the 2001 Election allowing people access to the Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park for free whilst maintaining a policy to force people to pay to enter all other parks in the rest of the southwest.

We do not begrudge people free access to Leeuwin Naturaliste however we insist that the discriminatory decision to force local people to pay to enter National Parks on one side of a district and free entry on the other is unjust.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to direct the Premier and Minister for Environment to keep to their word 'to govern fairly for all Western Australians' and in the case of southwest National Parks allow an equitable policy of non payment to enter National Parks and in doing so free up much needed resources to cull feral animals and noxious weeds from our forests.

[See petition 79.]