We the undersigned petitioners call on the State Government to reverse its decision to impose visitor entry fees for people accessing surfing beaches within Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park and further call on the Government to recognize that free access to our beaches is fundamental to our way of life.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 215.]

APPRENTICESHIPS

Petition

Dr Gallop (Leader of the Opposition) presented the following petition bearing the signatures of 111 persons -

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

We the undersigned citizens recognise that apprenticeships are an important way of providing life opportunities for young Western Australians and also to securing the skilled workforce needed to develop the wealth of our state.

We therefore call on the Government to address the threat of cancellation of many apprenticeships due to the shortage of work during the current downturn in the resources sector by establishing targeted short term support programs to ensure existing apprentices do not lose their apprenticeship.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that you will give this matter earnest consideration and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[See petition No 216.]

REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENT

Substitution of Tabled Document

THE SPEAKER (Mr Strickland): I advise members that I have received a letter from the Premier concerning the original copy of the Regional Forest Agreement document which he tabled in the House on 5 May 1999. As it is a 20-year agreement, it is preferable that it be filed in a departmental office and in accordance with Standing Order No 52 the Premier has requested that the original document be returned to him. The letter was accompanied by a copy of the agreement and accordingly I have authorised the substitution of the copy for the original signed Regional Forest Agreement tabled in the House on 5 May 1999.

SWAN DISTRICT HOSPITAL - KIDNEY DIALYSIS UNIT

Grievance

MRS ROBERTS (Midland) [9.10 am]: My grievance is to the Minister for Health and it is about the Government's failure to provide a kidney dialysis unit at Swan District Hospital. I have been calling on the Government to act on this matter for more than a year. On 1 May 1998, I met with a Mr Hecquet of Midvale who came to see me about his wife, Mrs Hecquet, who at that time was 74 years of age. She uses a dialysis unit three times a week and, at present, she must travel to Shenton Park. On that same day, I wrote to the then Minister for Health, the member for Albany. His response a couple of weeks later was that a business plan and so forth was being prepared by Royal Perth Hospital and active discussion with the Health Department of Western Australia was taking place. In the latter part of last year, I was contacted by numerous other people. These included a number of my constituents, including a Mrs Dent of Swan View, who must go to dialysis at Royal Perth Hospital three times a week. I have also been contacted by people as far afield as Northam. There is a particularly sad case in Northam in which a lady must make her way by train to East Perth, catch a taxi to Shenton Park and then return home. The dialysis treatment is very debilitating for most people. Often they are picked up an hour before the treatment takes place. The treatment itself is debilitating. They must then wait for taxis and transport to return to Midland and further afield. That results in those people being tired and worn out at the end of the day. I have no criticism of the staff at Swan District Hospital who do an excellent job with their patients. I have also received supportive correspondence from the staff at the Swan Caring Centre, who, in transporting many of these patients, also do an excellent job in caring for them and treat them in a good way. However, these patients should not need to be transported to either Royal Perth Hospital or Shenton Park for that treatment. I raised this matter with the current Minister for Health by way of questions last year. The response to parliamentary question 1576 which I asked on Wednesday, 2 December 1998, was that the Health Department had initiated an expression of interest process that would be publicly released in December 1998. A tendering process would follow in January 1999, and some dialysis service may be available in the latter half of 1999. The need for this dialysis unit is absolutely urgent.

A further case, and probably the saddest so far, was brought to me by way of correspondence which I received on 29 April. It was from one of my constituents in Bellevue whose mother-in-law is a dialysis patient who lives in Koongamia which is also in my electorate. This lady is 71 years of age. She has an additional complication of being a diabetic. She has also had two bouts of cancer; one bout required her to have a mastectomy and the other, some years later, required her to have a hysterectomy. Because of her cancer history, she is not on the transplant list, and her family has no argument with this. They would like her to receive her dialysis treatment at Swan District Hospital. Up until a week before this incident, which occurred on 23 April, she had a 9.00 am appointment at Royal Perth Hospital. Apparently, because of demand for dialysis
Unfortunately, hand in hand with the ongoing growth and development of the Joondalup CBD, there seems to be an ever
residing in the northern suburbs. cinema complex. The area is being promoted generally as a family-friendly entertainment precinct for young families.

Concerns the urgent need for appropriate and vastly improved policing measures to be introduced at the Joondalup train
station, policing measures

MR BAKER (Joondalup) [9.21 am]: My grievance is directed to the minister representing the Minister for Transport and
MR DAY (Darling Range - Minister for Health) [9.16 am]: I agree entirely with the sentiments expressed by the member
for Midland about the need to make renal dialysis available in the Midland area under the auspices of the Swan Health
Service. I am told that about 530 patients are in need of renal dialysis in Western Australia and that number is growing rapidly. It
is a major challenge for the State Government to keep up with providing the services that are necessary. I will also make a
comment representing the electorate of Darling Range. From a local point of view, I have as much interest in ensuring
that renal dialysis is available in the east metropolitan region around the Midland district. The good news is that it is
happening. This Government has a strong record of providing patients with renal dialysis which is closer to where they live
and of decentralising the provision of services, much more so than has been the case in the past. A statewide renal dialysis
program was prepared in 1997-98. It was developed to improve service coordination and also to enable the establishment of
satellite renal services which are closer to where patients in need of treatment are living.

Over the past two years, we have had an impressive record of ensuring that services are provided closer to where people live. Satellite services have been established in Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Joondalup, Armadale and Peel. Services will also occur
soon in Bunbury and Albany. I was in Port Hedland last Thursday, and as part of the provisions in the current budget, $1m has been made available for the provision of renal dialysis in both Port Hedland and Broome. That is another very welcome development for the people in the north west of the State. As far as the Midland area is concerned, an expression of interest process was started in December last year. Following the expressions of interest process, all of the proponents were invited to participate in a request for proposal process. At the moment, the Health Department is in receipt of proposals that were
made under that process and they are being assessed. A selection panel will meet at the end of this month and selection of
the service provider will be made soon thereafter.

In other words, in early June a decision will be made about who will be nominated to provide the service in the Swan Health
Service area. We expect the satellite facility will commence operation within 25 weeks of the award of the contract. The Health Department and I want it to commence earlier than 25 weeks and pressure will be applied by the department to ensure
that if possible it will commence sooner. However, there are complications involved with purchasing the equipment as it
is specialist equipment and must be imported from overseas. The facility in the Midland area should be operational by
January 2000 but I hope sooner. We are, therefore, fulfilling our commitment. We have a strong program of providing
services closer to where people live and it will happen in Midland because the process is currently underway. The satellite
service will have the initial capacity to treat between 16 and 20 patients, with a maximum capacity of 40 patients, which will
be a very welcome service for residents of the electorates of Midland, Darling Range and Swan Hills as well as the
surrounding areas.

I take the opportunity also to advise the House that the same process is being followed to provide a similar service in the
near future to the Fremantle district. Although I do not have specific times for the provision of the satellite service for
Fremantle, I assume that the time frame is similar to that for the Midland service. As I said, the good news is that it is
happening; I am very keen that it happen; and the Health Department is actually making it happen.

JOONDALUP TRAIN STATION, POLICING MEASURES

MR BAKER (Joondalup) [9.21 am]: My grievance is directed to the minister representing the Minister for Transport and
concerns the urgent need for appropriate and vastly improved policing measures to be introduced at the Joondalup train
station located in the heart of the Joondalup regional city centre. As the minister is well aware, the Joondalup central
business district is now booming with several five-star restaurants, licensed nightclubs, taverns, bars and also a multi-screen
cinema complex. The area is being promoted generally as a family-friendly entertainment precinct for young families
residing in the northern suburbs.

Unfortunately, hand in hand with the ongoing growth and development of the Joondalup CBD, there seems to be an ever