

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

This petition of young student citizens of Australia.

Draws to the attention of the House:

Many occupations require scientific backgrounds. These are: physicists, meteorologists, microbiologists, marine biologists, archaeologists, astronomers, geographers and doctors. All these jobs are vital to the world. Australians have invented the Cochlear ear implant, the electronic pacemaker, spray on skin, tests to prevent birth defects and even the cervical cancer vaccine. All of these achievements involve science, and each of their inventors studied that subject within their earlier years. Australian Howard Florey worked with Alexander Fleming in 1928 in Adelaide and they discovered penicillin. Dr Victor Chang was the first to transplant the artificial heart.

We therefore ask the House to:

Adjust the limit of science allocated to the Australian primary and secondary schools curriculum. In many primary schools science time is restricted to only 2 hours a week. This low number should be replaced with a figure like 4 or 5 hours per week. In secondary education, Science should become mandatory all the way through to year 12. Science saves lives, but only if we have the people to perform these miraculous deeds. The hope of scientific jobs in our country rests in the hands of our youth.

PETITIONS COMMITTEE
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