

PETITION

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ASSEMBLED IN PARLIAMENT:

The petition of certain citizens of Australia draws the attention of the House to the need for the restoration of a significant WW1 historical battle site in Beersheba, Israel. While Beersheba has a well maintained military cemetery and a memorial donated by the Pratt Foundation is soon to be unveiled, the site of the Wells and battlefield requires restoration. The Beersheba Wells should be reinstated to a condition worthy of their significance to the people of Australia and to the memory of the brave Australian soldiers of the 4th Light Horse Brigade. Soldiers who fought and died as a result of what is regarded as the last successful cavalry charge in history deserve appropriate recognition. The heroic actions of these soldiers allowed allied forces to capture a source of water that was vital to continuing efforts against the Turkish forces in the Middle East.

Your petitioners therefore ask the House to request the Australian Federal Government to work in collaboration with the Israeli Government to clean up the Beersheba Wells and battlefield and to erect historical markers and viewing platforms to allow better understanding of the significance of this historical battle site.