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Vandals without a licence

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A COMMUNITY-led push to strip juvenile graffiti vandals of driving rights is gaining momentum.

The proposal, from the Friends of Mentone Station and Gardens, would see repeat offenders barred from gaining their driver's licence until age 21.

Speaking at a rally outside Mentone railway station, group chairman Garry Spencer called for greater parental responsibility and increased sentencing options for magistrates.

"We have had enough and we are not going to take it any more," Mr Spencer said.

"The current system is not working and needs to change."

Mentone resident Dennis Cowden was among more than 100 people at the May 30 rally, which was backed by Chelsea and Bonbeach Train Station Group.

"There has to be, I think, some sort of reassociating of youth," Mr Cowden said.

A petition calling for a review of existing graffiti laws, increased sentencing options and a statewide commitment for graffiti to be removed within 48 hours will be tabled in State Parliament.

More than 300 people have signed the petition.

Mordialloc Labor MP Janice Munt told the rally she would look carefully at the demands but believed vandals aged 12 to 18 years needed an opportunity to be rehabilitated.

Under laws introduced last year adult graffiti vandals face up to two years' jail and fines of up to \$27,220.

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