

Gamers make their mark



RATING: GAME employee Emily Ellerton with a classification board.

Picture: BILL CONROY

MORE than 110 Bendigo gamers have joined a huge national push by signing a petition for the introduction of an R 18+ rating.

The petition, which is soon to be tabled in the Senate, broke all Australian records for the number of signatures.

More than 89,000 signed the petition across Australia, overtaking the more than 85,000 names on an online petition in 2008 campaigning about the introduction of WorkChoices.

PAL Gaming Network director

Roland Kulen is leading the fight alongside GAME managing director Rob Lukic and said he never expected interest to reach such heights.

"We've broken all expectations," he said.

"No one thought that in eight weeks we could get that response.

"We never thought we could surpass the work choices petition but we blew it out of the water."

Mr Kulen said a number of the

signatures had already been passed on to Minister for Home Affairs Brendan O'Connor and more had been passed on to three state attorneys-general.

"It's an extremely frustrating and slow process to have them tabled before the Senate," he said.

"But we have to make sure we do not let these voices disappear."

If the petition is successful, an R 18+ classification will be added to the gaming industry.