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SUBMISSION
MOTORCYCLE GRADUATED LICENSING SCHEME AMENDMENTS 2020

Dear Emma,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the proposed Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Act (1959) to improve road safety through the introduction of a graduated licencing scheme for motorcycle riders. It is noted that the proposed amendments are based on the Government's consideration of the 2018 Centre for Automotive Safety Research (University of Adelaide) report "Recommendations for a Graduated Licensing System for Motorcyclists in South Australia".

The Australasian College of Road Safety supports the proposed amendments. As you point out there has been a disturbing and tragic trend of more young motorcycle riders being seriously injured in crashes in the last five years.

In particular the College supports increasing the age for obtaining a motorcycle learners permit from 16 to 18, with 17 year olds able to obtain a permit only if they hold a car provisional drivers licence.

The College supports the extension of the R-DATE classification period from 1 year to 2 years and is heartened to see the zero alcohol blood level provision being proposed for both new and existing holders of an R-DATE classification.

While the proposed exemptions with conditions for 16 and 17 year olds in regional areas would help to overcome some transport disadvantage, the College considers this position to be the most that should be provisioned for in the regional exemption, given the higher traffic speeds (and consequent higher risks of serious injury in crashes) that riders will be encountering in rural areas. In supporting the currently proposed exemptions for novice riders in regional areas, the College considers there should be some review of the definition of 'regional' as defined within the Act.

The College supports other provisions such as the 12am – 5am curfew, and no pillion passenger, sidecar or trailer.

Please feel free to contact Dr Jamie Mackenzie, at
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Jamie Mackenzie
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