

FACT SHEET

VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC (ROAD VEHICLE STANDARDS) AMENDMENT BILL

This legislation is designed to ensure that Tasmanian legislation is consistent with the changed Australian framework for the provision of road vehicles.

The Australian Design Rules are the standards to be met by motor vehicles and trailers used on Australian roads, whether they are built in Australia or imported into Australia. The Australian framework for the Australian Design Rules is currently created in the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* (Cth). The framework created under this act is to be replaced by a framework created under the *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* (Cth).

The *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* (Cth) received Royal Assent on 10 December 2019. The provisions of this Act that create the new framework will be commenced by proclamation no later than 1 July 2021.

The *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* (Cth) extends the existing framework to allow greater alignment with international vehicle standards and simplified importation of specialist vehicles. Further, the need to fix a physical “compliance plate” to a vehicle to certify compliance with Australian standards is replaced by the requirement to enter details of a compliant vehicle on an electronic Register of Approved Vehicles.

The Tasmanian legislation must be amended to reflect altered definitions in the new framework and to accommodate the introduction of the Register of Approved Vehicles while ensuring that vehicles that are not on the Register of Approved Vehicles, the older vehicles on Tasmanian roads, are still covered by an appropriate regulatory framework.

The primary Act to be amended is the *Vehicle and Traffic Act 1999*, with consequential amendments to the:

- *Motor Vehicle Traders Act 2011*
- *Taxi and Hire Vehicle Industries Act 2008*
- Motor Vehicle Traders Regulations 2012
- Passenger Transport Services Regulations 2013
- Road Rules 2019

- Taxi Industry Regulations 2018
- Vehicle and Traffic (Driver Licensing and Vehicle Registration) Regulations 2010
- Vehicle and Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Regulations 2014.

The new Tasmanian arrangements will come into effect by proclamation to align with the commencement of the framework created under the Commonwealth Act.