

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Rural & Regional Affairs & Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Mobility Scooters ---- Review And Survey--Submission 2

I write in relation to a proposal to have restrictions put on the use of Mobility Scooters by disabled and elderly citizens.

I have read most of the 18 submissions made to date 21st January 2018 and find that most do not address the problems that Senator Williams has raised

Submissions point to some accidents occurring, however they are minimal compared to road fatalities

We should always remember it takes 2 parties to create an accident and most times I would say it is the pedestrian or some motorist not watching the road

Mobility scooters are already governed to speeds of approx 5 and 10kph and such speeds seem to be universally accepted

Mobility scooters do not have speedometers so riders cannot judge their speed

Mobility scooters do have a weight problem due to the weight of the batteries that power the motor---- and a solution to that problem is impossible

If further restrictions were put on the operating speeds, HOW WOULD YOU????

- 1 PROPOSE TO POLICE or enforce such speeds
- 2 Apply penalties for not conforming to any new speed restrictions
- 3 Propose to have children/ adults who ride Bikes , skateboards , Razor scooters , billycarts etc comply with the same speeds as mobility scooters
- 4 Propose to pay for any mechanical alterations to existing Mobility scooters in order to have them conform

I am sure the Police force have far more important matters to attend to, than booking wayward disabled pensioners for exceeding any new speed regulations

I ride daily on footpaths and roads and have not had an accident and I suggest that the Senate enquiry committee Go and try riding mobility scooters for one week and see just how disorganised and dangerous the average pedestrian is to themselves and others

. During my travels in the last week I have witnessed Kids on mini pushbikes Razor scooters and skateboards travelling much faster on footpaths than 10kph --no helmets --no restrictions

I would have hoped that the taxes I pay , that pay Senators salaries would have gone towards matters of far greater importance than this witchhunt by Senator Williams against old impaired and disabled mobility scooter riders

Mr R Fountain