

NATIONAL ROAD FREIGHTERS ASSOCIATION



P.O. Box 209 Deeragun Qld 4818



Parliament of Australia

House of Representatives

Standing Committee on Infrastructure & Communications

(Consequential Amendments & Related Provisions) Bill 2011

Namely "Safe Rates Issue".

To whom it may concern

I am the President of the National Road Freighters Association (NRFA) and Owner/Operator of Darryl Pedersen Transport carrying general freight to and from Far north Queensland covering the eastern states of Australia.

SAFE RATES The NRFA has membership spanning across all sectors of the transport industry. To give you an example we have members carrying General Freight Local and Long Distance, Livestock carriers working on Sealed Roads and Unsealed roads with varying distances, Refrigerated carriers Local and Long Distance, Bulk Dangerous Goods (Tankers, containers, etc.) Local and Long Distance, Bulk Carriers (Tippers, Walking floor trailers) working on Sealed and unsealed roads with varying distances, Specialised Heavy Haulage units (Floats with and without converter dolly's, Extendable trailers, Industry custom trailers) working on Sealed and unsealed roads with varying distances and also in some cases Pilot Escort vehicles and permits required to shift Loads.

With the above examples in mind you can see there is a significant difference in equipment required and type of road surface and amount of kilometres travelled by our membership therefore I ask how you are going to have a "SAFE RATE". Who is going to set the so called "SAFE RATE"? What qualifications in the Road Freight Industry do they have?

Many members of the NRFA have negotiated their rates in accordance with the work they do and fear they would actually be expected to operate at a lesser rate than they are currently doing which would see professional operators either going bankrupt or exiting the industry as it would be no longer viable for them.

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Each Transport operator has to negotiate with Suppliers to gain the best Fuel, Tyre, etc. prices available to them and that will be varying as to the size of their business again giving the multi-national companies a further advantage over the independent.

I believe over regulation and inconsistent regulation across the Derestriction's has far more effects of the Safety of our members. I feel this "Safe Rates" bill will further monopolise the Transport industry and force individual operators out of the industry.

Regards

Darryl Pedersen

National Preident.

