



## Minister for Transport and Main Roads Minister for Digital Services

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27 October 2023

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3897-23 lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 10 October 2023, which requests that first aid training be made a compulsory part of obtaining a Queensland driver licence, at no extra cost to the licence holder.

Under Queensland's Graduated Licensing System (GLS), novice drivers must progressively gain experience and improve their driving skills before they can advance to a higher type or class of licence. The primary aim of the GLS is to encourage safer, more proficient drivers by building road rule knowledge and driving competency through a long-term, phased approach.

The Palaszczuk Government takes road safety seriously and is committed to improving driver education to reduce the number of lives lost on Queensland roads. Accordingly, any change to the GLS would need to be subject to rigorous analysis. The potential benefit which could be derived from mandating first aid training would need to be balanced with the importance of retaining access and equity within the driver licensing framework.

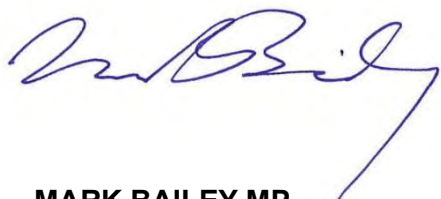
The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is currently undertaking a review of learner driver experiences, including a review of PrepL content, the 100 hours supervised driving requirements and the Practical Driving Test. These projects will investigate best-practice examples of learner driver experiences across Australia and internationally, emerging technology that might be used to support learner driver experiences, and innovative solutions to support the accessibility of the GLS. The proposal to include first aid training as a mandatory component of the GLS will be included in the current review of learner driver experiences, expected to be completed in late 2024. As part of the review, TMR will consider whether there is sufficient justification to mandate first aid training, noting this would expand the current primary purpose of the GLS.

Additionally, I understand TMR met with representatives of St John Ambulance to discuss their proposal and how first aid training may be most effectively promoted. TMR will continue to work with St John Ambulance and will explore promoting first aid training through its website, PrepL and the Streetsmarts page.

The Palaszczuk Government will continue to monitor the effectiveness of initiatives like these to understand the practical implications and whether they achieve the intended road safety benefits.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Bailey', with a long, sweeping tail stroke extending downwards and to the right.

**MARK BAILEY MP**  
**Minister for Transport and Main Roads**  
**Minister for Digital Services**