

Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

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Committee Secretariat

Clean Economy Jobs, Resources and Transport Committee

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**EVC Submission to QLD Electrical Safety
and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024**

The Electric Vehicle Council (EVC) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed amendments in the *Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024*.

The EVC is the national peak body for the electric vehicle (EV) industry in Australia. Our mission is to accelerate the electrification of transport for a sustainable and prosperous future. We represent members across the EV value chain, including car, bus and truck manufacturers, importers, operators, charging infrastructure suppliers and network providers, and battery recyclers.

The EVC shares the concerns of Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) and the Queensland Bus Industry Council (QBIC), regarding the need for clarity in the definition and scope of “prescribed electrical equipment” as it relates to vehicles, particularly electric vehicles and extra low-voltage equipment. The definition must be clear to ensure it serves a regulatory purpose only and does not alter the qualifications required for automotive technicians who service and repair electric vehicles.

As written, the amendment introducing Section 14(3) creates potential ambiguity by including extra low-voltage equipment that “forms part of a vehicle” within the meaning of “prescribed electrical equipment.” This appears contrary to the intention of the explanatory notes accompanying the Bill, could inadvertently remove the existing exemption for vehicles under Section 14(2) and impose unnecessary state-based regulations on vehicles already covered by the *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018* (Cth) (RVSA).

Recommendations

Accordingly, the EVC recommends the following:

1. **Regulatory Definition:** Ensure that the definition of “electrical equipment” does not impact the qualifications required for automotive technicians servicing and repairing electric vehicles.
2. **Amend Section 14(3):** Ensure Section 14(3) explicitly excludes vehicles covered by the RVSA to avoid the unnecessary duplication of regulations and ensure clarity.

3. **Define Personal Mobility Devices:** Clearly define "Personal Mobility Devices" within the legislation to address specific safety and regulatory concerns related to these unregulated vehicles.
4. **Ongoing Consultation:** Maintain ongoing consultation with industry stakeholders to develop clear and effective regulations that support the safe and efficient servicing and repair of electric vehicles.

Conclusion

The EVC supports the submissions made by MTA Queensland and QBIC concerning the *Electrical Safety and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024*. It is crucial that the Queensland Government provides clear definitions and maintains active consultation with industry stakeholders to ensure the safety, efficiency, and regulatory clarity for electric vehicles and all extra low-voltage equipment.

We urge the Committee to consider these recommendations to enhance the legislative framework and avoid unintended regulatory impacts on the automotive and bus industries.

For any further information or discussion regarding our submission, please contact Natalie Thompson, Senior Manager - Policy, at office@evc.org.au.

Thank you for your consideration of our submission.

Yours sincerely,



Samantha Johnson

Chief Executive Officer

Electric Vehicle Council