From:
 Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee

 To:
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 Subject:
 police powers and responsabilites (motor vehicle impoundment )

 Date:
 Friday, 25 January 2013 4:25:30 PM

to the committee, i am greatly dismayed at the proposal to increase vehicle confiscation powers for police. to give police the power to be judge and jury on the side of the road, and make judgement calls on modifications, while bypassing the court system is unconstitutional and discriminatory to a section of the community. in many instances the police are ungaulified to assess the legallity of some modifications, and may confiscate a vehicle on a personal whim. as for driving infringements, a accused should have the right to argue there innocents ,due to road conditions and other circumstances.the police work hard at a tough job, but they are human and can get it wrong. many enthusiasts are hard working, law abiding, trades people, family orientated and business owners who put in great effort to build and maintain there vehicles to a high standard. a minority has over the years given motoring enthusiasts a bad name and undeserved reputation in the media and with the general public. consultation with motoring advocate groups is essential to getting a law that is fair for all. i agree that something must be done to pull some motorists into line, but discriminating against the majority of law abiding owners of modified vehicles is not the answer. i have owned my modified 1973 holden for seventeen years, and in that time ,have had no traffic violations. i regullary attend hot rod shows, many of which are for charity, as well as legal drag racing at willowbank race track.my old holden is of historical and cultural significance to myself and indeed a great many other motorists who give me the thumbs up, when i am out driving .there are many "grey" areas in vehicle modification ,why do we not have a national modification code ? i have heard of a proposal for this, but apparently gueensland government has been holding out on this. i am writting this letter on the eve of australia day, and wonder how a government can propose such a biased, unfair and unaustralian law. regards, richard young.