


Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitted by: 
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Submitter Comments:

I am a father of two sons, and I ride e-skateboards with my oldest son aged 14, and have done for over a year. I take my responsibility as the supervising adult seriously, and I ensure we comply with rules requiring helmets and all other road rules. We researched the laws as they stand in Qld beforehand, and I purchased boards for me and my son costing several thousand dollars each. My son and I enjoy a fabulous time together and we use the boards on bike paths and paths, as well as on the road within the rules regularly and safely. We limit the speed on the controllers to ensure we can't speed. It is a great thing to do with my son, and we appreciate this opportunity as Queenslanders. We actually choose to holiday in Qld so we can use the boards while away on weekend caravanning trips because e-devices are completely illegal in NSW. We are respectful, cautious and compliant. We are highly aware of others including bike riders and pedestrians. To ban my son and I from this joyous recreational activity likely puts him behind a tablet or other device away from exercise and outdoor experiences. We regularly see individuals disregarding the rules. It seems completely inappropriate to penalise lawful users who respect the current laws to accommodate those who choose to disregard the laws. We regularly see dangerous e-device users speeding, with no helmets, or behaving dangerously on paths and roads as well as children unsupervised and wonder why the rules aren't enforced and why parents aren't supervising their children. Maybe the parents who fail to appropriately supervise their children should be held more accountable? Media reports showing serious e-device injuries is upsetting, but I note the majority are the result of unlawful and irresponsible use. In other words, people and parents have failed to comply with the current laws. The solution here that enables responsible operators (like me) to continue this wonderful past time WITH their children seems obvious.....enforce the existing laws and hold parents to account for their due and lawful responsibility. Lastly, Queensland offers wonderful tourism opportunities that are able to be appreciated on e-devices. We don't need to follow other states (who incidentally aren't policing their total ban rules with kids and adults on e-devices everywhere) to achieve a balanced and safe opportunity for great recreational experiences for families hoping to enjoy our wonderful environment doing something interesting and exciting as a family. Thank you for considering my submission.