

Tow Truck Bill 2023

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Dear Hon Mark Bailey,

I am writing this letter in relation to an email received Friday 21/07/2023 subject Tow Truck Bill 2023. My first point of reference is in relation to the industry operators who were invited to participate in this committee meeting. All these operators are larger companies and I feel for full insight into the industry at least 1 or 2 small business operators should have had the opportunity to attend and voice our concerns. The industry is very broad and the objectives from small business may differ from those of the larger companies. This I feel also that taking the view of only the larger operators is restricting us small companies in being able to succeed fairly. Queensland prides itself in being home to 452,000 small businesses and this deserves to be recognized.

In reviewing the released Tow Truck Bill and watching the recorded committee meeting we simply need more time and input. The operators who gave input have some very valid points but like previously stated may not be in the best interest for all operators across the industry. I would like to also address that these operators have had the bill for at least one week longer than we have had. Being a smaller company, we don't have the unlimited resources that the larger companies do, we are hands on active throughout the business and don't have the luxury of delegating our roles to others within in the business while we read the bill and comment on it. The Bill is 144 Pages long and obviously has a lot of new provisions while a lot of older ones were removed. Our target is not to stall this any longer then needed as the industry requires an updated act, however we want to get it as close as we can to right for everyone for today and for the future. Some of the new provisions added I believe haven't been addressed or thought out properly, especially with the consideration for actual firsthand knowledge and evidence from operators. Overlooking these would just cause more issues and complications without capturing the real issues at hand.

In conclusion, according to my research there's approximately 35 licensed towing companies in the Southeast Queensland region and 30 of these companies could quite easily fall into the small business category. The 30 small businesses who didn't have their opinion heard are the majority of industry, hence why you have received this letter via multiple different companies as we will stand united to be heard. I would like to propose you extend the deadline for submissions to give us adequate time to deliberate, reflect and put forward our concerns. Holding another conference focusing on these smaller businesses concerns and submissions would be beneficial. If a meeting is logistically not viable then an online Q&A via email to be completed and sent back could also be an option.