




Speech By
Colin Boyce

MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

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HEAVY VEHICLE NATIONAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL

 **Mr BOYCE** (Callide—LNP) (4.16 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the debate on the Heavy Vehicle National Law Amendment Bill 2019. I recognise my fellow committee members and, of course, our secretariat—Deb Jeffrey and all of her staff who help us with our papers and prepare our meetings—for their invaluable guidance in all of the work we do in the committee.

I support this bill. The objectives of the bill are to maintain currency, improve administrative efficiency and reduce complexity of the heavy vehicle national law. It will amend the HVNL to improve the productivity of the road network and the freight fleet by increasing allowed volume on certain heavy vehicles where mass is not the constraint. It will reduce the administrative and regulatory burden for the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and/or the heavy vehicle industry through the inclusion of a number of minor and technical amendments. It will also make consequential amendments arising from the enactment of the Commonwealth Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018. This bill largely involves the mechanics of governance of the national heavy vehicle law. As such, I have very little more to add. Both the Minister for Transport and the shadow minister for transport extensively covered the contents of this bill.

I would like to make a few comments in relation to the new Toowoomba Second Range Crossing and how that will enhance the safety of heavy transport, particularly coming in to Brisbane. Anybody who has had to sit in a big truck with 50 tonnes coming behind them, drive through Toowoomba's 18 sets of traffic lights at peak hour and then drive down the Toowoomba range would know that it is a stressful experience. I very much look forward to driving down the Toowoomba range on Sunday. I have to deliver a load of cattle to the Dinmore meatworks. I have extended an invitation to my colleague the member for Chatsworth to come with me. He will do that another day because he is busy this Sunday. I also extend that invitation to the member for Bundamba, to give her a firsthand experience of what it is like and of some of the challenges involved in driving a big truck down a very busy highway into the meatworks, which is in her electorate.

I also extend that invitation to my other colleagues on the transport committee, because it is extremely important that people understand what it is like to have to drive a big truck and some of the safety issues faced with regard to fellow road users. Having said that, I support the bill.