

Question on Notice

No. 1513

Asked on Tuesday 30 October 2018

MR R KATTER ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister act to temporarily amend fatigue management laws for the transport of cattle during drought to ensure animal welfare standards are optimised for stressed livestock?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Traeger for the question.

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is responsible for heavy vehicle driver fatigue laws. In February 2017, the NHVR issued the *National Livestock Welfare Work and Rest Exemption Notice 2017 (No. 1)*. The purpose of the notice is “to exempt drivers of fatigue-regulated heavy vehicles carrying livestock from specified work time requirements if additional time is needed to respond to situations where the welfare of the livestock is or was at risk.”

While the maximum work time is increased, it is capped and balances the welfare of livestock with driver’s fatigue implications.

Officers from the Department of Transport and Main Roads will continue to work with the NHVR to explore options to minimise the impact of driver fatigue requirements on drought affected livestock, taking into account the safety of all road users.