

Transport Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2025

Human Rights Certificate

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*

In accordance with section 41 of the *Human Rights Act 2019* (the HRA), I, Brent Andrew Mickelberg MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads, provide this human rights certificate with respect to the *Transport Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2025* (the Amendment Regulation) made under the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995*.

In my opinion, the Amendment Regulation as tabled in the Legislative Assembly is compatible with the human rights protected by the Act. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of the Subordinate Legislation

The Amendment Regulation:

- Removes the disability parking permit application fee requirement from the *Traffic Regulation 1962* (the Traffic Regulation); and
- Updates the heavy vehicle registration and heavy vehicle number plate fees.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) administers the Australian Disability Parking Scheme (the Scheme) in Queensland. The Scheme provides disability parking permits to eligible individuals and organisations, allowing permit holders to use disability parking bays to support their access to community facilities and services.

Currently, applicants for a disability parking permit are charged a one-off non-refundable application fee, prescribed under the Traffic Regulation.

In 2024, the Crisafulli Government made an election commitment that disability parking permits would be free, allowing families to apply for permits for multiple vehicles within the one family at no cost.

To implement the election commitment, the Amendment Regulation amends the Traffic Regulation to remove the disability parking permit application fee from 1 July 2025. Part 12A of the Traffic Regulation, specifically section 61(1)(c), currently requires an application for a disability parking permit to be accompanied by the appropriate fee. The fee is 18.65 fee units, outlined in Schedule 4, section 2 of the Traffic Regulation. The Amendment Regulation removes both section 61(1)(c) of the Traffic Regulation and its corresponding reference to the fee units in Schedule 4, removing the application fee for a disability parking permit.

The *Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2021* will be amended to update Category 2 vehicle registration fees and the national heavy vehicle number plate fees, both of which are determined by a nationally agreed process and are exempt from the Queensland Treasury Fee Unit Model. A Category 2 vehicle is defined as a vehicle with a GVM (gross vehicle mass), GCM (gross combination mass) or ATM (aggregate trailer mass) of more than 4.5t (commonly known as a heavy vehicle).

Heavy vehicle registration fees (which consist of a road use and regulatory component) are adjusted annually in accordance with updated schedules in the Heavy Vehicle Charges Model Law as agreed by the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting (ITMM). ITMM has agreed to an increase of 6 per cent to the road use component of registration fees for each of the financial years 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26.

The regulatory component of heavy vehicle charges, administered through states and territory registration fees, is adjusted annually to recover the operating cost of the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) which is primarily industry funded. The regulatory component of registration charges needs to increase by 1.5 per cent to recover the NHVR budget for 2025-26 in accordance with updated schedules in the Heavy Vehicle Charges Model Law as approved by ITMM.

The heavy vehicle number plate fee is adjusted by a nationally agreed indexation method. This year that adjustment is based on a 2.4 per cent increase in the year to the December 2024 quarter for the National All Groups Consumer Price Index published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the subordinate legislation (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

The Amendment Regulation does not engage any human rights by removing the disability parking application fee requirement or updating fees by agreed national processes.

Conclusion

I consider that the *Transport Legislation (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2025* is compatible with the *Human Rights Act 2019* and does not raise any human rights issues.

Honourable Brent Mickelberg MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads