

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am a RAW operated since 2004. I believe the act should change to meet current global market environment while preserving safety and environmental standard. Current act favours "car manufactures" since used imports are regulated to minimum numbers. This is unfair for Australians access to the best possible vehicles from around the world at the lowest prices. The newest, safest and most efficient vehicles should be encouraged and restrictions to competition removed.

Therefore I believe the act should remove restrictions to allow used imports to compete in the market while preserving safety and environmental standard.

My suggestions as follows:

- Remove the sevs eligibility - allow level playing field.
- Remove restrictions of the plate approval.
- RAW to compliance cars with more realistic regulations. ie. If the car is manufactured/used on first world country (USA, Canada, Europe (Germany, UK, France), Japan etc..) adopting uniform UNECE international standards . including alternative emissions evidence to avoid expensive testing arrangements, allow OEM catalytic convertors and charcoal canisters to be retained, unless faulty etc...
- Maybe use emission and safety standard as New Zealand (if GF, GH etc..)

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- **Cost Benefit for the Society**

Many new businesses would also be created, resulting in a more innovative industry and thousands of new and sustainable jobs across Australia.

The global cost of vehicles is a fundamental consideration. Australia has one of the most aging vehicle fleets of any developed nation. This is a direct result of limited competition and choice, which keeps prices high and consumer options low.

Competition drives down second-hand vehicle prices and makes better cars more affordable.

Better vehicles could be imported from other countries for significantly lower prices.

Access to lower cost, newer, safer, more efficient, and more secure vehicles would remove inferior vehicles from Australian roads.

Newer and safer vehicles mean fewer accidents, injuries and fatalities on our roads, and less impact on the environment through lower emissions and reduced fuel use.

First car buyers aged between 17 to 25 years often have a limited budget and can only afford vehicles that are 15 to 30 years old. Drivers in this age group are most at risk of accidents involving death or serious injury, and would benefit most from access to better vehicles.

If these drivers could instead afford a 6 to 10 year old vehicle, this alone would result in an immediate and measurable improvement in road safety as well as saving many young lives and the associated trauma to their family and the significant cost to society as a whole.

Road deaths have decreased in the 24 years since the introduction of the Act. However, much of this could be attributed to significant improvements in vehicle safety in that time including airbags and ABS brakes. Serious injury crashes have not decreased in real terms during the same period.

Considerable improvements would be possible with access to safer and cheaper vehicles.

Amendments should be made to progressively remove the restrictions on imported secondhand vehicles while still maintaining the quality of vehicles imported through a monitored scheme.

With the closure of manufacturing plants in Australia, the perceived need for protection of local jobs is more ill-founded than ever.

The current application of the rules appears to protect the interests of a handful of large international car manufacturers. This is not in the best interests of Australians, local business, road safety, or the environment.

There is always resistance to change however the many possibilities and benefits should be recognised and taken into account with this review. This is a tremendous opportunity to make a real difference to road safety and the impact of Australian vehicles on the environment.

Kind regards,

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