

Submission 102 - MVSA Review 2014

I wholeheartedly support reducing the absurd vehicle import restrictions we currently see in Australia.

I have personally imported two vehicles into Australia, one under the current scheme and one under the previous scheme. Not only are there these laws restricting the importation of vehicles into Australia, there are also administrative hurdles to negotiate namely the 100 points, it is impossible to obtain the mandatory 100 points if you are retired. I have already voiced my opinion to the faceless administrators without even a reply. So not only are their laws but this biased administrative system for the importation of motor vehicles into Australia.

In this day of choice and market forces individuals should be able to drive any vehicle they see fit. I believe the market can sustain and in fact demands an earlier introduction than 2018.

I want a Toyota IQ, a brilliant little car, currently I would have to move out of Australia, buy one say in the UK, 12 months later it would be eligible to be a personal import to Australia, oh wait I forgot, you can one personally import a vehicle into Australia every five years. Total absurdity.

The failure of the Australian automotive industry which was identified over ten years ago and even with the draconian protectionist policies and the millions of dollars from the public purse failed to produce a local desirable and profitable model cycle, this current and poor policy position has done nothing to increase competition, drive innovation nor encourage Australian's to purchase a locally made product at the correct cost point.

Safety – In my opinion if vehicle safety concerns are raised regarding a particular make and model of vehicle, a ban list may be appropriate. However vehicle safety globally is at sufficient standard that individual customers should make their own assessment when purchasing a vehicle, in order to meet their own expectations, Most Australian States impose their own safety requirements when registering a vehicle, Try having a Ariel Atom registered in Qld, you have to install a lap/sash seatbelt even thou it comes with a 4 point racing harness.

Parallel imports – Global vehicle manufacturers currently generate excessively higher profit margins from Australian sales than that of the rest of the world. Why should I as a consumer in Australia contribute to being the cash cow for many of the world's biggest manufacturers? Enough is enough. Parallel imports will provide a clear and transparent market value for vehicles in Australia.

Minister I urge you to take action on the matter as soon as possible so that Australians can enjoy the choice and freedoms we deserve.

Thank you,