



**Delia Lawrie**  
MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

3 May 2007

## **ROAD SAFETY REFORMS INTRODUCED TO PARLIAMENT**

The Government has introduced a Transport Legislation (Road Safety) Amendment Bill 2007 to Parliament to implement elements of its road safety reform package.

Transport Minister, Delia Lawrie, said the Bill implements the next stage of the Government's road safety initiatives.

"Saving the lives of Territorians on our roads is a priority of the Martin Government," said Ms Lawrie.

"This Bill will amend the *Traffic Act*, *Motor Vehicles Act* and associated regulations to reflect the next round of our road safety reforms.

"We are specifically targeting repeat drink drivers and under this new legislation repeat offenders will lose their licence, including lower level repeat drink drivers.

"A two-strikes and you're out regime will apply for any repeat offence committed within a three year timeframe."

The Minister said any drink driver caught for a second offence within 3 years will face an immediate 3 months suspension of licence. Any subsequent repeat offence will lead to a 6 month suspension of licence.

"Up to 70% of all road fatalities in the Northern Territory are alcohol related. We are cracking down on drink drivers to improve safety on our roads for all Territorians," said Ms Lawrie.

The Bill will also introduce the first phase of graduated driver licensing to help tackle the fact that our young and inexperienced drivers are most at risk in the early years of driving.

Graduated driver licensing will better prepare young people when they take to the roads through increased driver supervision in the L plate stage.

Phase 1 of graduated driver licensing includes –

- A six month minimum learner licence period for L plate drivers;
- A two year period for provisional licence P plate drivers for anyone under 25 years old;
- No mobile phone use for L and P plate licence holders;

Following today's introduction, the amendment Bill will be debated in Parliament during the next Sittings in June 2007 ready for implementation by 1 July 2007.

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