



INVESTIGATION INTO TECHNOLOGY TO DETECT ILLEGAL ROAD BEHAVIOUR

31 October 2007

Glen Elmes, Member for Noosa and Committee Member of the Queensland Parliamentary Travelsafe Committee announced today that an investigation by the Committee will look at emerging technology that can detect illegal road behaviour.

"The *'Inquiry into Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology'* that photographs vehicles and checks licence plates is being conducted as a result of Queensland's increasing road toll with 301 fatalities recorded for the year 2007, as at 28 October.

"The Committee is concerned about road users who continue to engage in risky and illegal behaviour, despite millions of dollars being spent annually on road safety public education campaigns".

Mr Elmes said that while people continue to ignore the road rules and risk lives and serious injury, the government has no choice but to take measures to circumvent this abuse.

"Our primary concern is to make the roads as safe as possible for all road users and police and other traffic authorities require access to emerging technologies that can detect illegal road behaviour in order to remove these people and vehicles from Queensland roads, Mr Elmes said.

"This technology is already operating in a number of Australian and overseas jurisdictions and the Committee will investigate whether it would be an effective tool in the campaign to improve road safety in Queensland."

Mr Elmes said that the issues being considered by the committee in this inquiry will include the capability of the technology, privacy of road users and resources that would be required by police and other enforcement agencies.

"We as a community must act and determine that we will no longer accept the rising number of road accidents, loss of life and risk of serious, life-long injuries caused by illegal road behaviour.

"I therefore encourage all interested persons and organisations to make a submission to the committee by downloading a copy of the issues paper from the committee's website at www.parliament.qld.gov.au/tsafe or by phoning 1800 504 022 or through contact with my office on 5449 8988."

Mr Elmes advised that **submissions will close on Friday, 18 January 2008** with a public hearing then planned for March 2008".

Further information: Glen Elmes MP - 07 5449 8988 or 0400 800 114

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