



Queensland

Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Registration) Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2012

Explanatory Notes for SL 2012 No. 56

made under the

Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995

General outline

Short title

Transport Operations (Road Use Management—Vehicle Registration) Amendment Regulation (No. 1) 2012.

Authorising law

Section 171 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995*.

Policy objectives and the reasons for them

As part of its *Lower Cost of Living for Families* package, the government has committed to freezing certain registration charges for 'family cars' for three years from 1 July 2012.

Registration charges for other light vehicles will be increased from 1 July 2012 by the Brisbane All Groups Consumer Price Index (CPI) as published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The CPI rate for the March 2012 quarter was 1.3 per cent.

Achievement of policy objectives

Vehicle registration charges are made up of three components - a registration fee, a traffic improvement fee and a Compulsory Third Party (CTP) insurance premium.

This regulation amends the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Vehicle Registration) Regulation 2010* to freeze the registration fee and traffic improvement fee components for 'family cars' at 2011-2012 rates. In the regulation, 'family cars' are referred to as 'prescribed private use vehicles'. These are passenger cars, vans, utilities, dual cabs, campervans and minibuses not over 4.5 tonnes gross vehicle mass that are used for private purposes (rather than, for example, commercial, dealer or farming purposes).

The freeze does not apply to CTP premiums, which are regulated by the Motor Accident Insurance Commission and will be adjusted according to normal practice.

The regulation provides that the registered operator must advise, within 14 days, of any change to the vehicle's purpose of use. Any such change during the currency of registration may result in the reassessment of the vehicle's registration fee, which may create an entitlement to a refund or a liability to pay an additional amount. Failure to comply with this requirement will attract a fine of four-fifths of a penalty unit and a maximum court penalty of eight penalty units.

The regulation also applies the CPI increase to registration fees and the traffic improvement fee for non-family light vehicles.

Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law

The amendments are consistent with the policy objectives of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995*.

Benefits and costs of implementation

Members of the community who have a prescribed private use vehicle registered in their name will benefit from the three-year freeze of the registration fee and traffic improvement fee components of their vehicle registration charges.

In 2012-13, this will save the operator of a four cylinder car \$4.30. The operators of six and eight cylinder cars will save \$6.40 and \$8.70 respectively.

Over the three-year period these savings will compound with the exact saving for the period being dependent on the CPI figures for the next two financial years.

Consistency with fundamental legislative principles

The amendments are consistent with the fundamental legislative principles.

Consultation

This initiative was announced by the government as part of its *Lower Cost of Living for Families* package.

All relevant government departments have been consulted and support the amendments.

ENDNOTES

- 1 Laid before the Legislative Assembly on . . .
- 2 The administering agency is the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

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