

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF E-SCOOTERS, E-BIKES AND
RELATED MOBILITY OPTIONS**

Name: Mr Joseph Waller

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To the Honourable Members of Parliament,

I am writing to express my concern about the current legal framework around electric scooters and skateboards.

I consider myself to be a careful driver and a good citizen. I am an executive for a global business that is well known and liked in Australia. I have no points on my drivers licence.

I live in Annandale and work in Sydney's CBD. If it were legal to ride an electric scooter to work, the commute would be fast (about 15 minutes), clean and almost identical than if I were to ride an electric or unpowered bicycle.

However, while an electric bicycle is legal, in NSW, the penalty for riding a scooter that is the same weight as a bicycle (less than 15kg) is significant is the same penalty that I'd get if I were to drive a 2.5 unregistered SUV at 110kmph on the motorway.

As I don't want to break the law, therefore, I find myself either driving to work in my diesel SUV, spending \$150 a week on parking, or taking the bus, which is cleaner - but takes over an hour each way, significantly eating into my daily productivity.

Use of an electric scooter is legal in other Australian states, such as QLD. It does not make sense to me that our legislation has lagged behind other states, is not abreast of current technology, and is inconsistent across nearly identical modes of transport in terms of speed, weight and risk.

I would therefore like the Parliament to reconsider the current regulations and to legalise all personal vehicles, not just bicycles and e-bikes.

Thank you.