



**OFFICE OF THE HON BILL SHORTEN MP
MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS
MINISTER FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES AND SUPERANNUATION**

Mr Anthony Chisholm
State Secretary
Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch)
PO Box 5032
WEST END QLD 4101

30 NOV 2012

Dear Mr Chisholm

Thank you for your letter of 10 October 2012 to the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, regarding Motion 57 passed at the annual conference of the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch), concerning the Road Safety Remuneration System and the Transport Workers Union (TWU) campaign for 'safe rates'. As the matter you have raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Hon Bill Shorten MP, Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, your letter was referred to him for reply. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf and to pass on his thanks for the Queensland Branch support.

The Minister is aware of the TWU's concern regarding the power major retailers at the top of the transport supply chain have to negatively impact safety outcomes on Australian roads. In response to the National Transport Commission finding of a link between pay and on-road safety outcomes, the Australian Government established the Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal (Tribunal). The Tribunal has the power to make Road Safety Remuneration Orders, to remove any economic incentive to drive in an unsafe manner. A separate education and compliance framework has also been established.

The Tribunal began work on 1 July 2012 and is currently finalising its first annual work program. The program will identify the priority areas for investigation in the year ahead. I am advised that the TWU has put forward that the retail industry should be the subject of the first inquiry by the Tribunal. For further information, please refer to the Tribunal's website www.rsrt.com.au.

I trust that this information is helpful.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sarah Adams', written over a horizontal line.

Ms Sarah Adams
Senior Adviser

05 DEC 2012