

ROAD TRAFFIC LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REGISTRATION LABELS) BILL 2009

Introduction and First Reading

Bill introduced, on motion by **Hon Simon O'Brien (Minister for Transport)**, and read a first time.

Second Reading

HON SIMON O'BRIEN (South Metropolitan — Minister for Transport) [7.57 pm]: I move —

That the bill be now read a second time.

The Road Traffic Legislation Amendment (Registration Labels) Bill 2009 seeks to discontinue registration labels for light vehicles. Currently section 27 of the Road Traffic Act 1974 requires the director general to issue a registration label evidencing the grant of vehicle licence and the label must be affixed to the respective vehicle as long as the licence remains valid. This bill will remove the requirement of the Director General of the Department of Transport to issue a registration label to every vehicle. The bill instead provides for regulations to prescribe the classes of vehicles to which the director general is to issue the label. As such, the regulations will not require the director general to issue a registration label to light vehicles; that is, vehicles and trailers of 4.5 tonnes or less gross vehicle mass. The requirement to issue and display registration labels for heavy vehicles will remain and be prescribed in the regulations. Registration labels will continue to be issued for heavy vehicles in accordance with the national heavy vehicle registration scheme. The bill also removes section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1974 relating to the issue of registration labels to overseas vehicles while temporarily in Australia. The bill instead provides for regulatory provisions to prescribe the classes of vehicles that are to be issued a registration label under this section. Historically, the vehicle registration label has been issued primarily for enforcement purposes; however, the Commissioner of Police has advised that he no longer objects to the discontinuation of the label. Ceasing registration labels for light vehicles will provide financial and environmental benefits. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned, pursuant to standing orders.