

From: office@greens.org.au on behalf of Christine Banks via Australian Greens
<office@greens.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 9 March 2016 12:04 PM
To: LCLC
Subject: Submission to Inquiry into the Road Safety Road Rules 2009 (Overtaking Bicycles) Bill 2015

This e-mail has been sent on behalf of Ms Christine Banks, at [REDACTED]. They can be contacted by phone at [REDACTED] or by e-mail at [REDACTED]. The content of their submission is below.

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I support the proposed "A metre matters" changes in passing distance regulations. Not because I think they are enforceable or likely to result in every driver passing at a distance of one metre, but because introduction of this law would highlight the vulnerability of cyclists, their legitimacy as road users and the need to be careful around them. Introduction of this law would be accompanied by advertising material of some kind to increase road user awareness and this, too, would serve to raise awareness of cyclists as legitimate and vulnerable road users. I see this as a useful step in the slow process of changing road-user culture.

I'm a middle-aged, non-lycra wearing cyclist. I prefer off-road bicycle paths but when these don't exist I ride on the roads. Sometimes it is terrifying, with cars or trucks zooming up alongside. I ride because it's a great way to reduce my carbon footprint, reduce my contributions to our city's smog and ever-increasing traffic, and improve my health at the same time. Sometimes I wonder if I'll be healthy but dead. I'm in favour of everything that helps make our roads safer for cyclists.

Yours sincerely
Christine Banks