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From: office@greens.org.au on behalf of Libby Hanna via Australian Greens
<office@greens.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 14 March 2016 5:19 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 Libby Hanna, 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 am a cyclist living in Melbourne and every single time I ride my bike (which is several times a day) I have the prospect of being car doored on my mind. I am only 19 and have two close friends under 21 who have suffered quite severe injuries (and memory loss in one case), one from being car doored and another from being hit by a car that pulled out across the bike lane in front of her.

I strongly support safe passing distance laws for cars and trucks overtaking bicycles, so we can all share the road safely.

When bike riding is safer, more people will leave their cars at home, and we cyclists will feel safer on the roads. This will mean better health, less congestion on our roads and less pollution.

I agree with the Committee's decision to look at the examples of Queensland, ACT and Tasmania where safe passing laws have been introduced, or are being trialled, and how to run a public education campaign about the rule change.

When the new mobile phone rules came in, most drivers learned the rule quickly because it was in the news. An education campaign is more effective when it tells drivers a new road rule.

We are all in this together. There is no 'us' and 'them', safe passing distance laws make our roads safer for everyone.