

Our ref: PET 56921

7 January 2026

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
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Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 4312-25, lodged with the Legislative Assembly on 11 December 2025 about safer vehicle visibility on Queensland Roads.

The Crisafulli Government is committed to ensuring the safety of all road users and acknowledges the matters raised by petitioners.

The current Queensland Road Rules outline that drivers must operate their headlights, rear lights, and rear number plate light at night and when hazardous weather conditions reduce visibility (for example during heavy rain). Under the road rules 'night' is defined as 'the period between sunset on a day and sunrise on the next day' and it is an offence for a driver that does not comply with this rule. On the spot fines of \$166 and one demerit point or a maximum court-imposed penalty of \$3338 may be applicable.

The decision on when to turn on a vehicle's lights is primarily dependent on light conditions. The responsibility is placed on the driver to exercise judgement as to when to turn on the lights. For example, on an overcast day, it may be necessary to turn on a vehicle's lights earlier than sunset. Some drivers may prefer to drive with their vehicle's headlights on during the day as they believe it contributes to safety. While there is no rule prohibiting a driver from using their headlights during the day, the Queensland Road Rules provides that a driver must not use any light fitted to their vehicle to dazzle another road user.

With regards to the petitioner's suggestion that automated headlight activation be a requirement for all new vehicles sold in Queensland by 2030, research does suggest that this may have a small impact on safety. I can advise that mandatory vehicle requirements are covered by the Australian Design Rules, administered by the Australian Government under the *Road Vehicle Standards Act 2018*. Any request for changes to make a feature of headlights (like automated headlight activation) is a requirement which would need to be directed to the Australian Government.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



BRENT MICKELBERG MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads