



AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN TERRITORY INC.
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11th March 2019

The Economic Policy Scrutiny Committee
Att: Secretary, Jennifer Buckley
GPO Box 3721
DARWIN NT 0801

SUBMISSION: MOTOR ACCIDENTS (COMPENSATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2019

I am writing on behalf of AANT in relation to the Committees' current inquiry to the above mentioned Amendment Bill, which its purpose is to ensure anybody who is working and injured in a motor vehicle accident (regardless of age) is eligible to receive loss of earnings capacity benefits (LOEC).

The Automobile Association of the Northern Territory Inc. (AANT) is the peak motoring organisation in the Territory, representing more than twenty thousand members and advocating for all road users. In consideration of the proposed amendments, AANT has reflected on recent media articles which brought to light shortcomings in the current MAC Act that excluded those that have reached pension age (67) and who are still working, access to loss of earning capacity benefits.

AANT fully endorses appropriate changes to the Motor Accidents Compensation Act that effectively addresses the identified issue of certain persons being excluded from accessing LOEC benefits, that should otherwise be entitled to receive benefits, however note that our preference is for the use of the term "in any other case" in section 13(5)(a)(ii) as was written in the explanatory Statement/Amendment Bill 2019 tabled 13/02/2019, over the use of the term "otherwise" as written in the Act to amend the *Motor Accidents (Compensation) Act 1979*.

Yours Sincerely,

Anthony Hill
CEO - AANT

