



AUSTRALASIAN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION INC

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **ARA WELCOMES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LEVEL CROSSING REPORT**

The Australasian Railway Association (ARA) welcomes the report tabled in Parliament yesterday which offers ten recommendations to improve level crossing safety around Australia.

The ARA participated in the inquiry by providing a submission and presenting to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (The Committee) in March this year.

ARA CEO, Mr Bryan Nye supports the report and strongly urges the Australian Government to adopt The Committee's recommendations.

"The Rail Industry welcomes every project that aims to improve level crossing safety and we embrace the recommendations of the Senate report" Mr Nye said.

"The House of Representatives has recognised that national consistency is the key to achieve nation-wide improvements in level crossing safety. This is particularly evident through their recommendations for consistent penalties and 80km/hour speed zones; two measures Rail has been calling for" he said.

"The next step is for the Australian Government to acknowledge the significance, practicality and positive impact that these recommendations can have on level crossing safety by supporting the recommendations in full" Mr Nye said.

"The reality is that every level crossing collision is avoidable. Ensuring that some of these recommendations are mandated will move us towards the Industry's goal of zero deaths at level crossings" Mr Nye concluded.

The Rail Industry employs the 3E's to combat level crossing safety – education, engineering and enforcement. An approach the Committee endorsed in the report.

The ARA submission can be found at <http://www.ara.net.au/site/Submissions.php>.

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