

Community Release

Australian Child restraint Resource Initiative

Wednesday, 21 November 2018

Re: Prospective changes to the National Child Restraint Road Rules: ACRI's submission – commitment.

Over the last few years specifically, Child Car Safety Seat product marketing, size delivery formats and instructions have added even further confusion to Safety Seat selection and use. This has been especially so for those professionally involved in advising and assisting third parties.

In 2017 ACRI submitted suggested changes to the National Road Rules for child safety seat use and subsequently were invited to present our abstract to the Working group convened at the National Transport Commission offices in Melbourne on the 13th November 2018.

In brief, for what amounts to a minimum legal use perspective ACRI advocated that forward facing be changed from 6 months minimum to 12 months and the use of a rear facing restraint should not be limited to a four year old as is currently the case.

The ACRI submission was well received and generally enthusiastically supported. It was widely recognised that Road Rule 266 needed to be restructured with an aim toward providing a better more easily affected guideline for this challenging topic. An aim to reflect Best Practice Guidelines in any amendments was reiterated by several stakeholders throughout the discussions.

Hopefully the working group will be able to include amendments reflecting our concerns and suggestions into the next package scheduled for April 2019

Thank you to all ACRI members involved with this submission.

Approved for release by Robert Newman CEO – ACRI