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## MEDIA RELEASE

1 December 2015

# MTAA WELCOMES AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY INQUIRY FINAL REPORT AND URGES GOVERNMENT TO ACT ON RECOMMENDATIONS

The Motor Trades Association of Australia Limited (MTAA) today welcomed the tabling in Parliament of the final report of the Senate Economics Reference Committee Inquiry into the Australian automotive industry.

MTAA Chairman, Neville Gibb congratulated and thanked Senators and the Committee Secretariat on the year-long inquiry and final report, arguably the most comprehensive inquiry ever undertaken by Parliament into the whole of the Australian automotive industry.

'MTAA supports all the recommendations and urges government to take full advantage of the work that has been undertaken and use the recommendations to help lay the foundations for an ongoing vibrant, successful and sustainable automotive industry Mr Gibb said.

Mr Gibb said the Inquiry has identified critical issues across the automotive industry including manufacturing, components, aftermarket, motorsport, retail, service, repair and recycling, but also potential solutions for an automotive industry at crossroads.

'What is required now is a preparedness by government to seize an opportunity to partner with industry; establish the right policy settings for the future; provide support; and enable the tens of thousands of businesses, and hundreds of thousands of jobs to continue to contribute to the national economy and Australia's ongoing reliance on road transport' Mr Gibb said.

The MTAA highlighted unprecedented changes and significant structural adjustment not only for vehicle manufacturing, but all parts of the automotive industry in its submissions to the inquiry and appearances at hearings.

As the national peak body for the majority of the State and Territory Motor Trades Associations and Automobile Chambers of Commerce and their thousands of automotive business constituents, MTAA also used the inquiry as a catalyst to bring the entire industry together at a specially convened summit in Canberra in August to further facilitate and coordinate the automotive industry's response to the inquiry.

Mr Gibb said almost all of the issues raised at the National Automotive Summit have been reflected in the final report and recommendations including the need for a coordinated industry and government approach to a future automotive policy framework.

'MTAA is satisfied that the Inquiry has noted the significant issues impacting franchised operators in new vehicle, motorcycle and farm and industrial machinery and called for a separate inquiry into the motor body repair industry.

'The Association is ready now to work with government and other automotive industry peak bodies in realising the implementation of the recommendations that will help keep more than 18 million vehicles and Australian economy moving' Mr Gibb said.

The final report can be accessed at:

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Economics/Automotive\\_industry\\_2014/Report](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Economics/Automotive_industry_2014/Report)

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