

# **NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Delia Lawrie**  
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

## **Demerit Points Passed Through Parliament**

Demerit Points will come in to effect across the Territory on 1 September 2007 after new road laws were passed through Parliament today.

Transport Minister, Delia Lawrie, said the new laws were recommended by the Road Safety Taskforce to reduce the Territory's unacceptable road toll.

"One Territorian is killed and 9 seriously injured on our roads each week," said Ms Lawrie.

"These new laws are designed to make our roads safer.

"Demerit points will target repeat offenders who continue to break the law and put everyone on the road at risk.

"Demerit points won't affect responsible drivers; they are targeted at people who continually break the road laws and aren't deterred by fines.

"The road safety taskforce report highlighted the case of one Territory driver who was fined 47 times over three years, once every three weeks. Demerit points will target this kind of driver."

The Minister indicated less than 1 percent of Territory drivers - the hoons and repeat offenders - are expected to lose their licence by attracting demerit points

"The demerit points system will directly target the major causes of our road toll - drink driving, running red lights, not wearing a seat belt and speeding," said Ms Lawrie.

Despite admitting the bill will make roads safer the CLP decided to put politics before saving lives and opposed the bill.

*Contact: Bethaney Jensen 0423 593 999*