

Amendment to Australian Labor Party Platform on Road Safety

A Federal Labor Government will, as a matter of urgency, legislate for a national system of Safe Rates consisting of an independent body with responsibility for safe standards of work including fair payments and conditions. This task has become more pressing given the emergence of new technology and the gig economy in passenger and freight transport which has accelerated the downward spiral throughout the transport industry.

The system will ensure implementation of the following principles:

1. Universal application of a system of binding, enforceable and safe standards. The standards will cover all parties in the transport supply chain / contract networks to ensure safe performance, planning and appropriate payments. The standards will focus on eliminating economic and contractual practices that place undue pressure on transport supply chains / contract networks;
2. Appropriate, enforceable payments and related conditions for all operators and workers, regardless of label;
3. The capacity to resolve (including where necessary through binding decisions) transport supply chain / contract networks disputes;
4. Appropriate and adequate enforcement regime; and
5. Appropriate resourcing of supply chain / contract networks auditing, training and education through an industry fund.