



## AgForce welcomes NHVR, remains concerned about 100km radius

AGFORCE Queensland has today welcomed the activation of the National Heavy Vehicle Register (NHVR) legislation and looks forward to reduced administration for primary producers and transport operators in the rural sector.

However, despite a number of clear advantages that will accompany the legislation, the organisation remains concerned as to the negative implications of a 100km trigger point for the completion of fatigue work diaries.

“We have supported many of the aspects of the legislation from the outset and are hopeful it will largely reduce administrative burden and transport costs for the agriculture industry,” Ian Burnett, AgForce General President, said.

“The fact that only one permit will now be required for trips between states, excluding Western Australia and the Northern Territory, will also bring considerably more ease to the transportation of rural freight.

“In saying that, we remain greatly disappointed with the inflexibility shown to primary producers in Queensland with the reduction of the trigger radius, for the requirement of truck drivers operating fatigue related vehicles to keep a fatigue work diary, from 200km to 100km.”

Mr Burnett said the reduction was at odds with the goal of reducing red tape and promoting productivity.

“The implementation of the 100km radius shows there has been little, if any, consideration of the distances primary produces in large states travel to simply reach their closest town,” he said.

“This decision has no safety benefit to drivers or communities and surely common sense says a trip to town to collect supplies and equipment should not be regulated under fatigue laws.”

Mr Burnett said AgForce now looked forward to engaging with the NHVR further on this issue and to developing a strong working relationship to continue to promote greater rural productivity.

“AgForce has always had a very good relationship with the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads and we look forward to fostering such a relationship with the national regulator.”

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**For media enquiries, contact**

AgForce media and communications: Stacey Milner 0418 733 102 or [milners@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:milners@agforceqld.org.au)

**Nadine Long 0427 626 853 or [longn@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:longn@agforceqld.org.au)**

**Who is AgForce?** AgForce represents thousands of Queensland broadacre producers who recognise the value in having a strong voice. AgForce leads the way to ensure agriculture's social, economic and environmental contribution is recognised by all levels of government. AgForce works alongside landholders, encourages and supports the next generation, builds industry partnerships and skills and promotes agriculture - for secure, sustainable, progressive and profitable food and fibre into the future.