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MEDIA STATEMENT

Friday 25 August 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA Queensland Wins Fight for Sunday Trading Exemption

This week Queensland's new trading hours laws were passed in State Parliament, which excluded the automotive industry, after a lengthy and active challenge by the Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) and others connected to the automotive sector.

Over the years, MTA Queensland has provided the government with detailed submissions regarding the views of industry, indicating 90 per cent support for no change to existing trading hours.

In its role as the peak industry body representing the dealers of motor vehicles, motor cycles and farm machinery, MTA Queensland has consistently campaigned on behalf of its members to restrict Sunday trading on the grounds that it would have a detrimental effect on business and ultimately consumers.

MTA Queensland Group CEO, Dr Brett Dale stated that, "This is a major win for our members and we are very pleased that the government acknowledged the impact on business such a decision would have had. If dealers had been forced to open on Sunday to compete in the market, it would have produced nothing more than convenience at a cost to consumers."

Earlier in the week, Industrial Relations Minister Grace Grace said, "This trading hours [legislation] is a great step forward, there's a lot of benefits in this piece of legislation. I think the negotiated outcome.....is a good compromise."

*****ENDS*****

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Motor Trades Association of Queensland

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Background:

MTA Queensland is the peak organisation in the State representing the specific interests of businesses in the retail, repair and service sector of Queensland's automotive industry located in the State. There are some 13,000 automotive value chain businesses employing more than 90,000 persons generating in excess of \$14.5 billion annually. The Association represents and promotes issues of relevance to the automotive industries to all levels of Government and within Queensland's economic structure.

The Association is the leading automotive training provider in Queensland offering nationally recognised training, covering technical, retail and the aftermarket sectors of the automotive industry through the **MTA Institute** - a registered training organisation. It is the largest private automotive apprentice trainer in Queensland employing many trainers who are geographically dispersed from Cairns to the Gold Coast and Toowoomba and Emerald. The MTA Institute last financial year accredited courses to more than 2 000 apprentices and trainees.

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