



## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# MTA Queensland Secures Sunday Trading Exemption for Automotive Industry

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) has applauded the decision of the Education, Employment and Training Committee to retain the existing restrictions on Sunday trading arrangements for new and used car, motorcycle, and caravan dealerships following the *Review of Trading (Allowable Hours) Act 1990*.

MTA Queensland has staunchly fought in opposition of 7-day trading on behalf of members of the Queensland automotive industry throughout the review process, providing extensive evidence and testimonials to the inquiry in 2021.

The decision is a fantastic outcome for dealers, who will be able to continue to operate as per current conditions in the face of changing market conditions and ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

MTA Queensland CEO Rod Camm said, "We are extremely happy to see the Committee take on board our concerns and extend the current trading arrangements for businesses in our industry, who are in near unanimous agreement against Sunday trading.

"Since the last review in 2019, the automotive industry has continued to be stretched by external factors putting pressure on the profitability of businesses, from the changing nature of contactless car sales due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to stock shortages.

"Introducing Sunday trading would have only served to exponentially increase the operating costs and pressures imposed on dealers, while driving skilled workers away from the industry to sectors with better work/life balance. This would have been extremely detrimental,

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particularly at a time where we are experiencing a drastic shortage of staff, made worse by COVID-19 isolation and quarantine rules.

“MTA Queensland is incredibly proud of this outcome, and we will continue to give voice to our members and represent their interests to influence government into the future.”

\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*

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**Background:**

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (**MTA Queensland**) is the peak body representing the interests of employers in the retail, repair, and service sectors of Queensland's automotive industry. MTA Queensland has been performing its vital representative role for the automotive industry since 1929. In Queensland there are some 15,500 automotive businesses employing more than 90,000 people, that generate more than \$20 billion annually. The Association represents and promotes issues of relevance to all levels of government. In 2019 MTA Queensland was announced as an ABA100 winner in The Australian Business Awards and a finalist in the Lord Mayor's Business Awards, for Business Innovation.

The **MTA Institute (RTO 31529)** is the leading automotive training provider in Queensland offering nationally recognised training, covering technical, retail and the aftermarket sectors of the automotive industry. The MTA Institute is the largest independent automotive training provider in Queensland, employing experienced trainers who are geographically dispersed from Cairns to the Gold Coast and Toowoomba to Emerald. In the last year, the MTA Institute delivered accredited courses to more than 2,000 students. The MTA Institute is the first trade RTO in Australia to be approved under the ITECA Industry Certification Program and was the winner of the Small Training Provider of the Year at the 2019 Queensland Training Awards.

**MTAiQ**, Australia's first automotive innovation hub established by MTA Queensland in 2017, is an eco-system that supports innovation and research for the motor trades.

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