

1998

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**MOTOR TRAFFIC ACT 1936
MOTOR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT)**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Circulated by authority of

Brendan Smyth MLA
Minister for Urban Services

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

MOTOR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

INSTRUMENT NO. 89 OF 1998

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Motor Traffic Regulations, under subregulation 33(4) empower the Minister to declare a holiday period by notice published in the Gazette. The notice, by virtue of paragraph 33(5)(b), is a disallowable instrument for the purposes of section 10 of the Subordinate Laws Act 1989.

This instrument specifies that the period from the first moment of Friday 5 June 1998 to the last moment of Monday 8 June 1998 (inclusive), shall be a declared holiday period. Accordingly, for this period, additional demerit points as specified in paragraphs 33(1)(a) and 33(1)(b) will apply.



m e d i a r e l e a s e

FOR RELEASE 1 JUNE 1998

DOUBLE DEMERIT POINTS DURING LONG WEEKEND

The Minister for Urban Services, Mr Brendan Smyth, MLA, today announced that additional traffic offence demerit points will apply over the Queen's birthday long weekend.

Double demerit points will apply to speeding offences. One additional demerit point will apply to other traffic offences such as disobeying red lights, failing to stop at stop signs and failing to wear seat belts. These penalties will apply all day Friday 5 June to all day Monday 8 June, inclusive.

"Speeding is particularly targeted, as it is one of the main causes of serious crashes," Mr Smyth said.

"If drivers exceed the speed limit by 45 km/h or more over the long weekend, they can accrue 12 demerit points and risk having their licences suspended for three months."

"Drivers who speed, risk their own safety and the safety of other road users. The community cannot afford to be complacent about speeding."

Mr Smyth stressed that the three big dangers of holiday travel were speed, fatigue and drink-driving and he urged motorists to safeguard their own safety and the safety of others by driving with care during the long weekend.

Statement ends Monday 1 June 1998.

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