

I'm writing about the proposed mobility appliance regulations and the impact that regulations would have on my life. Mine is a real power wheelchair, not a scooter.

I live in a regional city and need it to go more more than 6kph because I have long distances to travel and on roads. It would take forever to get anywhere at slower than 10kph and I'd feel unsafe on roads at a slow speed.

I've been using my power wheelchair for nearly 9 years and have driven about 5 1/2thousand kilometers and I've never hit anyone. I observe all motorised pedestrian and road rules.

Now the kicker is that I'm legally blind! To get my chair I had to undergo a driving test on the crowded lunch time streets of a Melbourne, plus get permission from my Ophthalmologist. If regulations were brought in for power wheelchairs they may take my chair away from me because of my eyesight.

You may as well end my life right then and there. I travel all over the state and like to go on holidays! And I travel back and forth to Melbourne at least once a week, all by public transport.

I've seen idiot scooter drivers, but why should my life be severely affected because of somebody else? Life is hard enough dealing with a complex disability without Government sticking their big nose into it ruining things for us responsible users.

Regards  
Judi Potts