

## Adrian Pederick MP

Member for Hammond  
Chair of Regional Affairs Committee

Tuesday 8 July 2014

### **Brock refuses to act on regional speed limits**

Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick has slammed the Weatherill Labor Government, and Geoff Brock in particular, for shutting down debate in the Parliament on arbitrary country speed limit reductions.

“It is disgraceful that the Minister for Regional Development Geoff Brock won’t debate Labor’s decision to cut speed limits from 110 km/h to 100 km/h in regional South Australia,” Mr Pederick said.

“I also moved a motion demanding the State Government release the findings of a review into the country speed limit reductions but Geoff Brock and Labor refused to debate that matter as well.

“The Minister for Regional Development had an opportunity to speak on the issue and on behalf of regional South Australians but was again missing in action. This isn’t good enough.

“In my speech I outlined some of the roads in Mr Brock’s electorate that will be impacted by these changes but he refused to comment.

“Safety is paramount on our roads, but these restrictions will only serve to keep our country people behind the wheel for longer – causing an increase in driver fatigue – and will do little to address the issue of road safety.

“Reducing the speed limit on country roads is not necessarily the answer to reducing the road toll and I call upon the Government to improve the condition of country roads.

“We have a backlog of \$400 million on road maintenance and this Government continues to neglect our country roads.

“Instead of repairing our roads, installing more overtaking lanes and improving infrastructure, Labor allow the roads to fall into disrepair and then lower the speed limit to cover their backs.

“It’s like slapping a band aid on a wound requiring stitches, it doesn’t address the issue and it certainly doesn’t fix the main problem – a critical lack of regional infrastructure spending.

“What we need is better quality country roads, not shoddy, dilapidated and dangerous roads with artificial speed restrictions,” Mr Pederick said.