

[Association for the Protection of Road Accident Victims](#)

APRAV 'making a stand' in Parliament ...

On the 9th of September 2014, representatives from **APRAV attended the RAF CEO's annual submission to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Transport**. The major positive outcome was that the Chairlady of the Transport Portfolio Committee, Ms Dikeledi Magadzi, decided that a **special RABS session should be held urgently**. The purpose of this special session is that the Committee has a thorough understanding of all the issues and concerns. It is expected that this session is likely going to be **held in October this year**. According to Members of the Portfolio Committee a special 'session' is a rare event and indicative that the **Committee has serious concerns. These concerns were raised by APRAV!**

APRAV will, as with the session held on the 9th of September 2014, ensure to **inform all Portfolio Committee Members of all the concerns and issues with the RABS Bill, but also share possible solutions** as well.

The process forward, for the RABS Bill or even just amendments to the RAF Act (should that be the solution) is (a) **public comment**, which ends on 05 October 2014; (b) **consultation & presentations** to the Portfolio Committee; (c) consultation with **NEDLAC**; (d) Cabinet approval; (e) Parliamentary process – Transport Portfolio Committee approval; then **a vote on the Bill by the 400 national assembly Members of Parliament**; and lastly (f) **RAF prepares an implementation plan** to introduce any changes agreed upon by Parliament. APRAV is closely monitoring this process on a weekly basis, interacting with key decision makers and managing a process **to ensure that all participating Members of Parliament are well informed**.

Comment: APRAV remains fully committed to actively contribute to a long-term, sustainable, affordable, fair & equitable public rights orientated social security system, for road accident victims in South Africa.



Statistics

- No of registered vehicles: 9 945 021
- Included in the above is 47 799 busses
- 9 350 899 licenced drivers
- 1 987 802 unlicensed drivers

“For ‘Joe’ RABS is just not going to help”

Scenario 1 - Joe is a graduate professional who earned R 2 m per year;

Joe’s residual income, after a serious motor vehicle accident, is R 220 000.00 per year, which is more than the R 165 000.00 per year (R 75% of R 220000.00), maximum allowed by RABS, per year. Joe will thus receive no income benefit from RABS.

Scenario 2 - Joe (like many if not the majority of claimants) does not have the financial means to travel to the closest RABS "Branch" and has no access to internet either.

Joe is unable to attend some of the medical assessments required by RABS, cannot submit his claim electronically and is thus disqualified from claiming from RABS.

APRAV Comments:

- The requirements to claim in RABS are of such a nature, that **most poor, unemployed, lowly educated and rural claimants are in reality never going to be able to ever submit a claim, let alone receive benefits.**
 - The **intention** of the current RAF Act and the proposed RABS Bill **is to ensure social security for road incident victims** – the detail in **RABS will have the opposite effect.**
 - **In fact looking at the practical implication of RABS the whole system is aimed towards frustrating and discouraging road accident victims from claiming.**
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Some key activities the last 2 weeks!

- A summary of the RABS Bill was produced
- A meeting was held with the Clinical Neuropsychology Association of SA
- Solutions Task Team work sessions were held on 4 & 11 September 2014 & continued work on comment on RABS & the alternative solutions
- Prepared APRAV briefing pack and circulated it to relevant and key Members of Parliament. Key members were briefed on various dates in Cape Town
- Completed the sourcing of claimant statistics from various Industrial Psychology practices
- Attended the RAF CEO presentation to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Transport on 9 September 2014
- A radio interview was broadcasted by Power FM on 10 September 2014
- Submitted a Request for Information to the RAF, in terms of the Access to Information Act on 11 September 2014
- Launched an updated website and national public awareness campaign 'tell your story' on 12 September 2014
- Interacted with media on articles in the Mail & Guardian, Pretoria News, City Press, Lowvelder and George Herald
- Sourced a broad base of relevant industry statistics
- The RAF RABS presentation scheduled in Mbombela was attended on 15 September 2014

Planned Activities!

1. Continue interacting with the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Transport
2. Expand APRAV's formal interaction to other relevant Parliamentary Committees & structures
3. Analyse & circulate the sourced national statistics on claimants
4. Expand the coordination, alignment and input across the various industry bodies involved
5. Involve local and international human rights organisations
6. APRAV Solutions Task Team work sessions scheduled for 18 & 25 September 2014
7. Search engine optimisation to be applied to the APRAV www
8. APRAV to attend RAF RABS presentations scheduled in Cape Town (17/09/14), Vredenburg (18/09/14) and George (19/09/14). Most (if not all) planned RAF RABS sessions will be attended.
9. Interaction with relevant media will be maintained
10. Plan a general APRAV briefing session for Gauteng on 01 October 2014 at the Pretoria Country Club, 18:00.
11. Similar APRAV briefing sessions are planned for other provinces & will be announced shortly
12. Collating all input received to compile the APRAV comment before the closing period



Solutions Task Team

Professor Hennie Klopper is leading APRAV's Solutions Task Team composed of experts from various relevant fields.

Head:	Emeritus Professor Hennie Klopper, University of Pretoria (UP) (Author of <i>Law of Third Party Compensation</i> and <i>RAF Guide</i>)
Researchers:	Ms Elzeth Jacobs (Occupational Therapist) Ms Rounah Marobane (Attorney) Ms Karen Jearling (Industrial Psychologist)
Technical Advisors:	Dr H.B. Enslin (Orthopaedic Surgeon) Ms Adri Roos (Occupational Therapist and Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa Coordinator) Mr Caleb Dredge (Attorney) Mr Waldo Snyman (Attorney) Mr Ngoako Mohlaloga (Government Liaison Coordinator) Dr Herman Edeling (Neurosurgeon and South African Medico Legal Society Coordinator) Mr Pieter De Bruyn (APRAV Coordinator)

For more information go to our website www.aprav.co.za and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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