

## Inquiry into the Use of School Buses in Rural and Regional Victoria

Mrs Kristal Styles

**Organisation Name:**

**Your position or role:**

### YOUR SUBMISSION

**Submission:**

To whom it may concern,

I'm a concerned parent and the school bus situation in Tatura is getting ridiculous. Yes, we choose 5 years ago to send our oldest to Kyabram (25min away) for high school as Tatura doesn't have one. But we were always under the impression that we would at some stage get our own bus for the kids to get to and from school safely. Yet never really happened. Our kids at the start travelled by vline bus each day getting dropped off at the vline bus stop in centre of kyabram then having to walk the 10 mins to school in rain, hail or shine. We would have to sit and wait to make sure that our kids fitted on the bus. There were plenty of occasions kids would get left behind. They would have to ring a family member to pick them up ( if they had a phone) or sit at a public bus stop for sometimes over an hour waiting for a taxi, that the bus driver would ring. Then be late for school which is unacceptable. But the return trip in the afternoon was an even bigger issue as was unreserved seating only and runs from Echuca to Melbourne so was always busy, if our kids didnt fit on the bus they would be left in Kyabram at the bus stop in centre of town and sometimes we would have to leave work and go pick them up. Or we would sit waiting for kids to get off bus not knowing they were stuck in Kyabram. St augustine college tried to fix the afternoon issue and run a private bus in the afternoon which worked fine but we have just been advised that we have to go back to using the vline services. So middle of winter kids get to walk ten minutes to school at 8.10am from the bus stop and then the same in the arvo back to the bus stop, rain, hail or shine. There is quite a few students that travel from Tatura to Kyabram everyday for school and that number is only getting bigger with parents and children choosing to go to one of the 2 high schools in Kyabram instead of super school in Shepparton. I am hoping that something can be done to help arrange a school bus for our student so that they have a safe and convenient way to get to school and actually get dropped at school gates like normal school bus does.

### FILE ATTACHMENTS

**File1:**

**File2:**

**File3:**

**Signature:**

Kristal styles