

# SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUTERS ORGANISATION



SACO  
P.O. BOX 812  
MONDEOR  
2110

30 July 2012

## RE- ROAD ACCIDENT FUND TRANSACTIONAL PROVISIONS BILL

Dear Sir/Madam

### Background

- 1.1 SACO believes that accident should be treated as an accident without categorizing it because we do have the relevant departments within our government that should take care of irregularities on our roads and apply relevant laws. We therefore recommend that passengers should not be subjected to more pain by sending them from pillar to post by these categories. We also recommend that the amount should be increased to R40 000.
- 1.2 As SACO we strongly believe that some of these laws are discriminatory especially to the citizens of this country because when it comes to tourist from other countries they are paid more than our people, therefore we suggest that these amounts must apply to all victims

equally.

### Objects of the Bill.

Item: 2.3 Clause 2(1)

We would like to submit that the amount mentioned on this clause should not be limited to the maximum of R25 000 only because medical expenses can be more than the amount mentioned on this item. We would like to suggest that it should be increased to R40 000 limit.

Item: 2.4 Clause 2(1)(c)

There should not be any agreement reached between the parties involved due to failure to honor the legal agreement, without court involvement.

## **5. Parliamentary Procedure**

5.1. We believe that the state should respect our Traditional Leaders by referring this Bill to the National House of Traditional Leaders because in rural arrears people/ Communities believe in their leadership.

Proposal

As SACO we would also like to propose that our government must look at a situation whereby a person was killed in an accident, what happens to the next of kin/family members because this bill is silent on this subject? We believe that the government must take care of the bereaved families e.g. what happens to people who are in rural arrears who do not have facilities and children who are still at schools.

### **Access road RAF satellite offices**

SACO is concerned about the accessibilities to communities in the rural arrears to get information of reporting their problems directly to Road Accident Fund. They find themselves in the hands of so called Totters/Agent of the lawyers who even go to their residential homestead. Those communities in those rural arrears they have been highly exploited by so called agent of the lawyers, there are many victims who have been robbed since those agent took their particulars at their residential arrears they don't even communicate with their clients. We want to bring this to the attention of the portfolio committee that also the satellite offices that exists in the 4 provinces some of the officials that are working there are directing victims to go to the lawyers instead of them claiming directly to Road Accident Fund because Road Accident Fund is not going to pay them. Stakeholders like SACO can play a role of assisting communities to claim directly to Road Accident Fund.

**Submitted by President of SACO**

**Stephen Sangweni**