The first stage of reforms to the Northern Territory’s Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) legislation will be debated in Parliament today, with the second stage to be introduced.

The Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Kon Vatskalis, introduced the first stage Bill during last November’s parliamentary sittings.

"This Government made a commitment to address the problems affecting the industry, and provide a level playing field for all operators," Mr Vatskalis said.

He said stage one of the Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) legislation provided for:

- A CPV Board with industry, consumer, tourism and regional representation.
- A new category of executive taxis.
- Ensures taxis and minibuses are registered in the name of the licence holder.
- Ensures vehicles are maintained to the approved standards.
- Ensure drivers hold an identity card and meet requirements of driver standards and training.
- A requirement for upfront full annual payment of any new taxi or minibus licence (quarterly payments apply after first 12 months).
- Determination of fares and charges for standard and executive taxis.
- Minibuses permitted to respond to hails.
- Establishment of maximum seating capacity for standard and executive taxis.

"These changes will have an immediate and positive impact on an industry that has been suffering under deregulation set down by the previous CLP Government," Mr Vatskalis said.

"It will also deliver an improved standard of service to all Territorians and visitors."

Mr Vatskalis said stage two of the Commercial Passenger Vehicle (CPV) legislation will also be introduced today, and is expected to be debated during the next parliamentary sittings in Alice Springs in April.