

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [taxiinquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Taxi Inquiry Submission June 28th 2019  
**Date:** Friday, 28 June 2019 4:50:57 PM

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Please find below my impact Statement of the Taxi industry reforms Victoria, 2017.

**\*\*\*\*I would please request my identity, name, NOT be disclosed once published. \*\*\*\*\***

[REDACTED]

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Hello. Thankyou for listening to our plight.

Having saved a deposit we decided to purchase a government issued perpetual taxi licence in Victoria in May 2010 for \$450 000.

My ownership of this licence was 50%. My loan equated to \$ 112500 for which the repayments were \$1250 and lease value from this licence was also \$1250. The lease payment was covering loan repayments as well as appreciation in the asset value. The partnership dissolved 5 years later at which point i had paid approximately \$34,000 in interest alone.

I then had to refinance my loan to NAB ( MRF Business Facility) for \$83 000, 10 year term with balloon payment due in 2020. To date i have paid \$10800 in interest alone. As it is a Market Rate Facility, the interest rate is variable and this could mean even higher repayments in the future.

Since the new legislation to diminish all perpetual taxi licences passed my taxi licence and any associated asset appreciation and its income have all diminished!

First world governments pass law and legislation to protect the rights and assets of their people. The treatment of all taxi industry families in Victoria has been nothing less than what one would expect in a Third world country!

Hardship applications were assessed based on a mystery criteria. No comprehensive answer was provided for not qualifying for assistance. We felt we needed to have been at our death bed with zero assets for someone to listen to our silent cries for help! On the contrary, i have worked hard to earn an honest living and paid my taxes to the bottom dollar ever since my first Full time job back in university, well over 25 years ago. This is how our government rewarded its hard working citizens!

Compensation has been provided they say (my share of which hasn't even been able to repay the liability i still have!), but what has been done to address not only huge outstanding debt and nil future income but the ongoing emotional effect these "reforms" have had on families such as ours.

In the last year alone, my family has been in and out of hospital, be it for the pain my husband has been experiencing in his chest or the severe anxiety issues i have had, seeing numerous Specialists and MRI'S and examinations. Our marriage has been strained as a result of the financial hardship and now at a point where we may part ways. Many lives have been lost through suicide and other stress related issues as a direct result of the "reforms" and i too have lost hope at times- Not being able to cope with the loss and the dramatic toll it has taken. *I do not wish to just become another statistic!*

Whilst I am still fortunate to have a roof over my head and extended family which has been supportive throughout the last 2 years, we have had to reconsider schooling options for the children. New business plans have been put on hold while we continue to work our daily jobs - just to make ends meet.

Whilst the financial hardship has clearly taken its toll, the emotional scars will long remain. No longer do i have faith in my government to govern for "all Victorians"

All we want is Our voices to be heard, our faith to be restored. Just give us a Fair Go!