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The Secretary  
Legislative Council  
Economy and Infrastructure Committee  
Parliament House Spring St  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

## **INQUIRY INTO THE COMMERCIAL PASSENGER VEHICLE INDUSTRY ACT 2017 REFORMS**

**AS A VICTIM OF THE ANDREWS GOVERNMENT AND THEIR ACTION I AM HAPPY FOR YOU TO PUBLISH MY STORY**

Please accept this submission to the Parliamentary Taxi Inquiry. My story is as follows –

- My wife and I purchased 1 Perpetual Taxi Licences in around 1990 for approximately \$130K
- We then purchased our second Perpetual Taxi Licence in 1992 for \$210K. As you would be aware at the time you could purchase a decent home for that price.

We had purchased our 2<sup>nd</sup> Licence after the Honourable Jeff Kennett was Premier and cleaned up and regulated the Taxi Industry. The Licenses also traded on the Bendigo Stock Exchange at the time so of course, we felt Safe.

In 2014 we attended a Taxi Industry meeting in Huntingdale whereby Daniel Andrews, whilst pretending to care and even went so far as holding babies, faced the entire Industry and encouraged us to vote for him as he promised that he would look after us in the Taxi and Hire Car Industry as he said he came from a Small Business Family and understood what we were going through. He even went so far as to say that we were a very strong presence in the community and required as a service. WHAT A LIAR.

How can he look us straight in the eyes and then in August 2016 announce that he was about to destroy the entire Industry. Daniel Andrews and Jacinta Allan's actions has sent both my wife and I to despair. We both suffer severe depression and even writing this is making me, as a grown man at the age of 81 to sit here and cry.

We have lost everything. We have lost our assets and we have lost our income. We are left with NIL income and NIL assets which were declared property by the High Court.

The Andrews Labor government paid disgraceful transition (not compensation) of \$100,000 per licence for the first licence and \$50,000 each per licence for three subsequent licences to a maximum of \$250,000 and a \$1 levy per trip was raised, to cover transition cost. Like everyone, I too am asking what my wife and I were supposed to be transitioning to?

How did the 1<sup>st</sup> Licence differ from the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and what happened to the rest.... Disgraceful.

Daniel Andrews Labor government has from their actions absolutely flooded the roads and the market with cheap licences. The roads are absolutely congested. From my understanding taxis and ride share are now over the 62,000 mark. How is this sustainable and smart. ITS NOT.

The 'fairness fund' or as described the "UNFAIRNESS FUND" was established to support the many cases of severe hardship.

Like many, we too attended the information session that Marnie Williams and KPMG held. What an insult to wound and a joke that was. They could not answer any of our questions and all they kept saying was

"NO CRITERIA AND NO APPEAL"

This process and session was so upsetting and scary that a gentleman at the time fainted and needed assistance via ambulance. But yet, they continued on their destructive journey.

Again, I would like to express the severe health destruction this has caused to myself, my wife and my children. Both my wife and I are constantly at the doctors and I do not wish to talk further about our health as it hurts far too much.

We have every right to demand our money back.

As many are also saying, the Andrews Government bought out all the houses for East West Link and did nothing and now even knocking back the \$4Billion from Federal Government, he obviously does not need the money so I suggest that he accepts this \$4Billion and pays out all the Taxi & Hire Car Industry in Victoria that he destroyed. What about the Fisheries Licences they paid top dollar for.... Why the difference with our Industry. Makes No sense.

We BEG you Rod Barton.. We BEG you please... help us. At my age we should be enjoying life not fighting for life..

Kind regards

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