

Can (John) Dogangun  
[REDACTED]

25 May 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE: Parliamentary Inquiry into Commercial Passenger Vehicle Reforms**

I am writing today to share my story as to how the Commercial Passenger Vehicle Reforms have affected my business and my livelihood.

Prior to the reforms I had owned 1 Taxi plate and 1 VHA plate to which I currently still drive a hire car, however due to the high amount of drivers currently on the road I have experienced financial hardship as I have lost a lot of jobs and clients. Having received \$100,000 from the Fairness Fund was not a solution for me as monthly I was earning \$2800, which helped pay my mortgage which I had to borrow against to purchase the Taxi and Hire Car plates. Now I am struggling to pay my mortgage and basically living off my credit card to which I never had to do prior as I have always lived within my means supporting my family on my wages.

Currently I still am driving my hire car with what little work I have left, however being 60 I am currently searching for new jobs to try and make ends meet, as I have been struggling to pay the mortgage due to the loss of income, I have withdrawn the funds from my Superannuation to be able to ease the load and keep my house – to which I still owe money. Withdrawing the funds from my Super has severely affected any chance of retirement I had planned, as I am struggling to make ends meet which I never thought I would have to experience this kind of stress and worries being so close to retirement.

Being in the Taxi industry for over 20 years and watching how the Andrews Government has handled the introduction of Uber, has been appalling and unfair to everyone involved in the Taxi and Hire Car industry. There has been no help to try and compensate the owners of Taxi plates where so many of my colleagues, including myself, have had to borrow against their mortgages just to get a small fraction back and be left with debt and uncertainty.

Having lived in Australia for over 50 years I truly believed that the state Government would have been fair and considered the ramifications of dissipating the value of the Taxi and Hire Car plates - not leaving small business owners to fend for themselves.

Yours sincerely

Can Dogangun  
*VHA Driver and affected owner*