

The Secretary  
Economy and Infrastructure Committee  
Parliament House, Spring Street  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Date 16 December 2019

Dear Secretary,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion to the current Parliamentary Road Toll Inquiry.

Firstly, my background gives me the necessary experience required to formulate a constructive opinion. Currently employed by the Victorian Education Department as a full time teacher at a public secondary college, teaching students at year levels 7 to 10. Also employed as an Associate Driver for the Premiers Department as a part time relief driver for the past six years. I served in the Army Reserve for twelve years gaining qualifications and experience as a heavy truck driver, instructor and licence-testing officer.

In my opinion the training and licence testing for all car drivers is the same format since introduced in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Clock up some hours, do a test and you are off on the road. If this format came under Work cover with its occupational health and safety rules it would fail big time.

That's why the Army, Police etc. take the trainees back to the basics and progress its student drivers through a competency based training course to ensure that all its students meet the standards required before they issue them with their licence.

The current 120 hours for learners fails to address the lack of experience learners' gain with their parents / supervisors. I see this by poor skills they display on the road. One would expect after the 120 hours of experience skill to be better refined. I have seen a student copy into his logbook from another to up his hours. (I simply told him the only one losing here is himself, not getting enough hours on the road) Students have also told me the new logbook app is easier to cheat as they have it running while on the bus coming to school. This also must be addressed by the inquiry.

In my opinion **ALL** drivers must complete a competency based training an assessment driver's course to gain their car licence. By raising the skills of drivers can we then realistically meet the lower targets for the road toll.

Thank You