

23rd May 2019

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**CONFIDENTIAL CAN BE PUBLISHED WITH ANONIMITY**

I came to Australia in 1967 as a young man from Greece. I left my family and country under very difficult circumstances. When I came to Australia I worked very hard at two jobs. I supported my family and wanted a better future.

I purchased a Victorian Taxi licence as it was a perpetual licence and it was something I thought could help in securing my retirement. I did not want to rely on a government pension. I was told that perpetual meant it was forever and given the perpetual taxi licences traded on the Bendigo Stock Exchange, both my wife and I felt very comfortable in investing in a licence for our retirement.

We felt this would secure our superannuation giving us an income and of course, having paid off our asset which we wanted to leave to our children to also secure their future.

When the new regulations came in, everything I worked hard for disappeared along with it.

I feel very angry, upset and stressed which has in turn affected my health. I am depressed and have lost my desire in enjoying the things I strived for. My income has been taken away and at my 76 years of age, I can't start all over. In turn this has placed a strain on my marriage and it has affected my wife's health. The strain put upon me and my family has been very difficult to cope with. I worked long hours and sacrificed so much to be in a better financial position but this is no longer the case.

I also enquired about the fairness fund and attended information seminars. I was so confused and was told that I was not going to see any benefit. I was so stressed at the time, I did not apply.

The devastation placed on me is unbearable. I can't sleep at nights. I constantly argue with my wife. I have to think twice about spending anything on my grandchildren and ourselves. That is totally unfair when all we have done is work to strive to be self-funded retirees.

I find it disgusting that the Andrews government has treated me and my family in this manner.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]