## **Justine Donohue**

From:

**Sent:** Thursday, 27 June 2019 10:17 AM

**To:** taxiinquiry

**Subject:** Submission - (Please redact my name and email address)

**Categories:** More details reqd

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into the Commercial Passenger Vehicle Industry Act 2017 Reforms. I would like to request that my name and email address be redacted from this submission for privacy reasons.

My husband and I purchased 3 taxi licences in Melbourne by working very hard and for long hours. I worked in a factory for many years and worked overtime regularly while raising my children in order to save and provide a better future for myself and my family. My husband worked over 80 hours a week throughout his entire career and we invested all our savings into the taxi licences. The government had encouraged mums and dads to purchase taxi licences as a form of superannuation and we had never expected the same government to then forcibly cancel our licences and pay out only a small fraction of the cost of the licence.

With the announcement of the taxi industry reforms to cancel our licences I was devastated and in shock. At this time I was working full time as a child care worker there was still a large loan to pay for the taxi licences. As the stress built up and the government failed to listen to our concerns that the reforms were unfair and would cause significant hardship, my health started to deteriorate. I developed severe depression and was unable to continue work as a result. I am still unable to work to this day despite still being a few years away from retirement as the impact of the financial loss has caused serious mental health issues. My husband is working as much as he can in order to pay bills and pay off a loan of \$140,000 which is still owing to the bank against the taxi licences.

I am on regular medication and have deteriorated with little hope for improvement as my financial situation is only getting worse day by day adding to the stress. However it is not too late and I ask that you alleviate the undue pressure on taxi licence owners by paying adequate compensation for the revocation of taxi licences.

Kind Regards,