

Alan and Maria Farr



5 April, 2017

Public Works & Utilities Committee
C/- Taxi Council QLD

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in relation to the Taxi Council Qld's request for support in their **FIGHT FOR FAIR** on behalf of Regulated Taxi Licence owners in Mackay.

After working in the building industry for 43 years, my wife and I ran our own building company for 13 of those years, I approached an age where I could physically no longer do this type of work. In 2002 we seriously reviewed our situation and after a great deal of thought, we decided to invest in a Mackay Regulated Taxi Licence. We used our superannuation to invest in a Taxi Licence with the view that Taxi Licences were a reliable growth asset. This was to be our superannuation. The Taxi Licences are now virtually worthless as there are no buyers, due to the fact that competition can come from operators that do not have to operate under the same rules and conditions.

At 73 and 72 years of age the Taxi Licence is not generating sufficient income for us due to the economic downturn. As the Taxi Licence has no value we will be relying on the government pension for our retirement.

The Australian Government recently allowing a wealthy foreign company to operate a ride sharing service in direct competition with taxis in Australia with no enforcement is outrageous and in clear breach of regulation and **WE WANT FAIR**.

We would like the Government to **buyback** our Taxi Licence for what we planned to comfortably retire on. The figure we estimated to be able to sell our licence when we initially invested in our taxi is **\$400,000.00** and this is the buyback figure we demand from the Australian Government.

Regards

Alan and Maria Farr