

Research Director

Transportation and Utilities Committee

Parliament House

George Street

BRISBANE QLD 4000

10 April 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I, with my wife own a company, Lucas Harvesting Pty Ltd which is the holder of four Queensland Regulated Taxis Licenses. We harvested sugar cane for almost thirty years until my wife took ill and has since had five joint replacements. Because of this we sold the harvesting equipment and reinvested in Taxi Licenses, believing them to be a sound investment by the fact that they were a contracted license with the Queensland Government.

We have invested our entire savings and also borrowed from the bank to purchase the four licenses believing that we would retire and be self-funded in our retirement. Because of the recent decision by the Queensland government to allow rideshare to operate with very little to no regulation, the value of our licenses has diminished. This meaning that we have a lifetime of work wasted and we will now become dependent on welfare to retire after selling our house to pay the bank. We have no idea what we can do with the taxi licenses as there is no interest shown from prospective buyers.

Unless the government comes up with a worthy buy back scheme or introduces legislation that will see the taxi industry and rideshare on a level playing field, we along with many other license owners will go into liquidation with nothing to retire on. I urge the committee to adopt the proposal put forward by the Taxi Council Queensland and try to prevent the demise of so many small businesses.

Yours Sincerely,

GM Lucas.



Draft Taxi Council Submission was attached