

To Whom It May Concern,

I understand that the Taxi Council Queensland (TCQ) will be providing a submission on behalf of stakeholders regarding the proposed transport reform. In support of this submission I felt obligated to address my concerns regarding the "approval" by our State Government (who have been elected by the Australian People) in allowing an overseas conglomerate to infiltrate the Taxi Industry as is being done and to further operate on a non-level playing field – and rumour has it, by also not paying tax on the income earned to the Australian Government.

Should any one of the existing taxi owners have done what they are doing – besides the heavy fines which would be imposed by the ATO for non-tax payment – I believe our licences would be revoked for not complying with laws and rules.

You are reading a response from a person who has previously submitted a tender to the Government and paid for the right to operate a maxi taxi in Ipswich – through Star Radio Taxis and since Yellow Cabs.

These licences were to be the basis of my superannuation fund (together with one other maxi taxi licence and two other taxi licences which I own). As a self-employed business person, I note that I have no other superannuation contributions. Up until this ridiculous situation has been allowed to occur, I had considered the possible purchase of another taxi licence (probably a car, rather than a maxi taxi) to provide further income in my retirement. Given the massive reduction in my current return this will no longer be occurring if your proposals proceed.

At 84 years of age, I have been self-employed for most of my working life and being faced with this devastating situation so close to retirement I cannot comprehend why a Government would allow this to happen. Particularly when you consider the huge amounts of money which have been paid to the Government on the allocation of new licences from the tender process.

In addition to the financial bias, the Government is allowing a company to endanger the lives of passengers by not enforcing safety procedures or compliance with rules that all other existing taxi owners must abide by.

I believe this proposal has been rejected by other States, yet allowed to continue in one of the best states (being Queensland). I trust that the Queensland Government will legislate to rectify the deplorable situation that currently exists.

Regards,

Garth Llewellyn
Taxi Licence Holder