

Remo and Anna Di Felice



Research Director
Public Works and Utilities Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

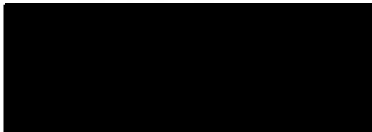
I will only keep this short because I cannot type very fast but I would like to express our pain and heartache and the changes that have taken place in our lives since Ride-Sharing was introduced into Queensland.

My wife and I are both migrants from Italy who made Australia our home over 60 years ago. When I arrived in Australia I went up north to cut the sugar cane and after many years of hard work and saving my money I was able to marry my beautiful wife and we started a family and settled in the Brisbane area.

We have worked very hard over the years and were able to purchase taxi licences in order to set ourselves up financially when it came to our retirement. I am proud to say that when I retired I had not taken one cent of the governments money or received any benefits from them as I made enough from the 4 licences that I have purchased over the last 30 years to cover all our costs and in fact I have been paying tax right up until this financial year. Now with Ride Sharing being approved by the Qld Government my yearly income has gone from \$120,000 down to \$45,000 and will be eligible to receive a pension and all the benefits that come with that being doctor and prescription costs at a much cheaper rate than the full price I have always paid. Also we have always been proud of the fact that we have looked after our money and wanted to leave something to our children on our passing and now our 4 licences that were valued at over \$2 million dollars are now worthless.

How could this have happened? We have been law abiding citizens and paid our way all this time and now this company come in and get whatever they want. They disregard the law and we don't stand up to them. It is not fair. Please read the letter I have attached to this and make it fairer for us to compete against this company or pay us the compensation that we deserve not \$20,000 x 2 that is a disgrace.

Please think of the people who have worked hard all their life and not asked the government for handouts and who are now in the fight of their lives through no fault of our own.



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List of Requirements

1. Establish an independent Personalised Transport Commission with legislative amendment, policing/enforcement, regulatory and policy development capacity.
2. Bailment Agreements must be retained, with the minimum work conditions and standards for all personalised transport drivers enshrined in legislation.
3. Security Camera requirements must establish a minimum standard, be consistent and uniform across all personalised transport providers to ensure the safety of all drivers and passengers (regardless of the service chosen) and to meet Queensland Police requirements.
4. Commercial-grade, anti-tamper GPS units must be fixed to all personalised transport vehicles and be remotely accessible to authorised parties.
5. All personalised transport vehicles to have emergency systems in place to support driver safety.
6. The Bill and Regulation must be fully consistent with all other relevant legislation including, but not limited to, disability discrimination and work, health and safety.
7. All personalised transport vehicles be required to have dedicated number plates (akin to "T" plates), rather than easily removable stickers. Plates to be provided only when evidence of appropriate CTP, public liability and certificate of inspection are provided.
8. Immediately define, and establish appropriate and equitable premiums for, the class/classes of Compulsory Third Party insurance for all personalised transport providers to address continued uncertainty.
9. All personalised transport providers must hold public liability insurance to prevent the State Government becoming the default insurer and to minimise potential risks to the community.
10. In the absence of vehicle age restrictions, establish clear vehicle quality and usage rate standards and hold operators accountable.
11. Increase licence fees for Booked Hire Service Drivers and Authorised Entities to help fund expected increases in regulatory and enforcement costs for Government and to better reflect the level of "trust" being placed on licence holders.
12. All drivers must have an ABN and be registered for GST before receiving a Drivers Authorisation.
13. The Government must establish a process for managing the risks of multiple affiliations by drivers in terms of both "chain of responsibility" and fatigue management. This includes drivers operating across both personalised transport and other transport (i.e. truck, bus) sectors.
14. Fully integrate taxis into the GoCard public transport network in the short-term.
15. Clearly define what constitutes a "hail" and "touting".
16. Expressly prohibit the establishment and operation of Booked Hire Service pick up/and drop off zones, on public and private land, which represent pseudo taxi ranks.
17. Establish and maintain a register of drivers that have been disaffiliated or removed from platforms to prevent drivers from simply shifting to a new platform.
18. Establish clear and enforceable requirements for Government access to all data related to the delivery of personalised transport services in Queensland.
19. Expressly identify Police Check requirements in the Bill for all personalised transport drivers as part of Driver Authorization approval.
20. Maintain the capacity of the Minister to enter into Service Contracts at their discretion to ensure the Government has the capacity to respond quickly, and at the lowest cost, to changing or unique circumstances without the need for regulatory or legislative changes.