From:
To: Tollroads

Subject: Submission for the Inquiry into Toll Roads in Queensland

**Date:** Wednesday, 11 July 2018 10:37:53 PM

Kelly Smith

SUBMISSION FOR THE INQUIRY INTO TOLL ROAD IN QUEENSLAND

My debt to the Sper Company run by the Government and affiliated with a privately owned company, was originally

a debt of \$4700 in 2007. When I originally communicated with Sper as to what the debt consisted of and the fact that

my licence had been suspended unless I paid my debt. Is the Government aware that the vast majority of the public

that owe fines are within the lower socio economic sector. My debt was paid by fortnightly payments of \$70 since 2007, rather than the debt going down, it was spiralling ever upward, it has been called to question that a fine can only be issued once, it cannot be compounded and interest cannot be charged, so what is going on with SPER and TRANSURBAN who owns and runs the TOLL roads? How is the Government allowing such unfair and fraudulent profiteering bestowed upon the Australian Public. As a single mother raising two special needs children I had enough financial struggles on my plate without the ongoing drama and additional stress of

a debt that I soon found out was compounding, when I rang Sper on each occasion they would avoid the question of

what interest rate am I paying?, as my debt increased to \$7000, then \$11,000, it is now, on the last check at \$26,000.

I ask the Government what is SPER and what revenue does SPER derive? Transurban a private company is the main

profit making stake holder of this countries road infrastructure. Toll fines, compound if not paid, statistics have shown the Gateway motorway has been paid 100 times over, why is the public still paying \$5 dollars each way and upwards to use the Gateway, Logan Motorway and tunnels through out the city. Tunnels that are white elephants and if opened to all of the public to use, would assist in the city's gridlocked traffic issues. Increase our registration (fairly) to include all use of the tunnels and roads. For this is where we should have been charged, within our registration, with money going back to the Government, instead Jeff Kennett started this road toll nightmare by selling our infrastructure resources to Transurban.

Governments Federal and State are now committed to 50 and 100 year leases to the company and have handed the publics assets, the countries assets over to a private company to run. I am an administrator of a political party Civil Rights NO TOLLS and believe me our thousands of contributors are appalled and beyond angry at what is being done to our roads and civil liberties. These contributors are working people who struggle daily with just financially surviving and on top of that they get stuck in gridlocked traffic and have to pay upwards of \$4000 a year to use the tolled roads for work, thats on top of road registration. This is not in the publics best interest, this is double dipping, charging the public for registration to

use the roads then hitting them again for using the roads and making revenue by compounding fines. The issue of Governments making wrong decisions to keep their party in the black to try and win another election. Jeff Kennett now claims Governments should not re sign with Transurban. That perhaps he made a mistake. The fact is if the Government was collecting the money for a service that should not be charged to the public in the first place, at least it would be going to the greater good of the country, we would hope. Instead Transurban is collecting profits through the obtaining of our road infrastructure. Raking in billions of dollars each year. Billions of dollars that belong to the Australian Tax Paying Public. So back to my debt, I have struggled to raise children on my own, educate my children, educate myself and keep all of us on track. I now also am the sole carer of my 94 year old mother, I have no home, no assets and instead I have an ever compounding debt of fines and toll road compounding fees which my \$140 a month payments since 2007 has not even reduced my debt which started at \$4700. This inquiry is many years too late coming

And what changes will the inquiry produce? The Government is in too deep with Transurban and we the people will use our vote and our voice until unfair practices and inflated profiteering, either for revenue raising or for private company capitalisation, cease.