

# ACT Taxi Plate Owner's Association Inc.

A registered association of ACT Perpetual Taxi Plate License Holders

QUALITY PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES IN THE ACT

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## RE: Review of ACT annual taxi lease fees 2024

Attention: Honourable Minister Chris Steel, MLA

[steel@act.gov.au](mailto:steel@act.gov.au)

Australian Labor Party – Member for Murrumbidgee

Minister for Transport and City Services

Ph: (02) 6205 1470

Dear Minister Steel,

I am reaching out to you as a perpetual taxi plate owner and Chairperson of ACTTPOA in the ACT to address a pressing issue that has deeply affected me and many plate owners in the taxi industry.

It is with great concern that I bring to your attention the detrimental impact experienced by perpetual taxi plate owners in the ACT due to the significant reduction in lease fees paid to us. As you are aware, diligent Australians, including myself, invested in perpetual taxi plate licenses in the ACT as part of our superannuation and retirement plans. However, misguided decisions by the ACT State Government have resulted in financial devastation and emotional distress for us.

Of particular concern is the drastic reduction in the price of leasing taxi government plates between taxi operators and the government, which plummeted from \$20,000 per annum in 2015 to a mere \$5,000 per annum in 2017 and hasn't changed since (2024). This unilateral decision penalises perpetual plate license owners, who are now forced to endure significantly reduced stagnant fees, despite no fault of their own.

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This situation has pushed many of us to the brink and threatens the sustainability of our livelihoods. We find ourselves in dire need of financial relief to assist us in reversing drop of lease fees. Despite our repeated appeals, the government has failed to provide any meaningful assistance or address our concerns.

**Therefore, I respectfully urge the government to seriously consider reversing the lease fees back to \$10,000 per annum in 2024. This adjustment is crucial to ensuring the sustainability and viability of perpetual plate owners in the ACT.**

I implore you to consider the gravity of this situation and the profound impact it has on the lives of many hardworking individuals in our community. **Furthermore, with the upcoming election this year, I hope that the government will prioritise addressing this issue and restoring faith in its commitment to supporting the many plate owners in the ACT taxi industry.** Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I eagerly await your response and action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Endre Kovacs

ACTTPOA Chairperson

16 February 2024