

Yvette Norris

From: Stephen LACAZE [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 5 July 2019 6:56 AM
To: wcpolicy
Attachments: WorkcoverConsultation.docx

Dear Sir/Ms,

Please find appended below, and attached, my submission to the

Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Consultation
Office of Industrial Relations.

My name and contact details are :

Stephen Lacaze
[REDACTED]

Phone : [REDACTED]
Email : [REDACTED]

Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation Consultation Office of Industrial Relations

Objectives as stated in RIS and Quintennial Review

- Reduce community and worker exposure to costs that could be met by WorkCover
- Develop an updated implementation model that provides the WorkCover safety net equitably across the ENTIRE industry, and can be extended more generally to the 'gig economy' and workers in it.

Philosophical inconsistencies in analysis to date !

- Attempts in both documents (RIS and 5year review) to separate Taxi industry participants actually revealed more similarities than differences. Taxi drivers are by all the filters used, clearly, the original 'gig workers'
- A simple test in the Personalised transport industry would be to establish cover for all holders of a certain credential - the BHTX ,All drivers regardless of affiliation or ownership status !
- Attempts to separate out an owner driver of a taxi (including a leasing driver) but to include such a driver in non-taxi operations is clearly an artificial and seemingly arbitrary distinction.
- ALL drivers in the Qld Personalised Transport Industry, have NO price setting ability, and are therefore 'vulnerable'
- If it is acceptable to impose the WorkCover burden upon one ABE (Authorised Booking Entity) why should it not be imposed on every ABE.

Potential difficulties in implementation -

- Protests by sectional interests
- Passing on of costs to drivers, by an ABE through increased commission's or affiliation fees (almost inevitable)
- Willful non compliance, especially by foreign based corporations.

Benefits of universal coverage based on BHTX credential

- Large 'pool size' to spread risk broadly
- Horizontal equity
- **Potential for government to impose a "fare levy" across the entire industry as has been seen in other jurisdictions for other purposes.**