

**Bernie Smith submission**

I cannot believe the ESC is again trying to ruin the taxi industry.

Since 2004 there has been a lessening of competition so much so that only two companies really exist in Melbourne.

Then they charged customers \$11 for a silver service, a service which should have been standard and which means businessmen and women get priority over other less fortunates.

Now they want to slug \$10 to pre book at various times including peak hour on a Friday.

Here I am a normal taxi driver, doing my job in my ordinary car but providing great service to the public. yet i am never rewarded other than with the satisfaction of doing a great job.

The ESC is actually saying that if you want to get good service you will have to pay for it.  
i have got news for them.

Mediocrity will continue if you allow those with more money to choose so called better services. Our standards are falling because we dont act against mediocre standards. We just up the price to get a standard of service that should be the standard. Has the ESC ever heard of ethical behaviour because what you are doing now is undermining the good drivers to suit those with more money.

Who gets the \$10?

Who gets the \$11 silver fee?

Is there any safety standards to ensure the \$10 taxi turns up on time?

What extra standards do we get?

THE HIRE CAR INDUSTRY MUST BE CHUCKLING because now you have put taxi fares out of reach of those people wanting to go out to the footy or coming home from business trips on a Friday.

What a disgrace!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

BERNIE