

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

My name is Ali Hammoud, U Need a Cab driver and owner since 1990. It has been my pleasure to serve the city of London for the past 22 years.

This is the first time in 22 years that a new bylaw seriously threatens our livelihood and I hope that whoever is responsible will reevaluate them and hopefully make the right changes to accommodate the needs of the owners and drivers.

On behave of every owner and driver, I would like to mention the following points that we think affect us negatively:

1. Six demerit points is not fair. Keep this matter to the ministry of transportation because we are human and every human makes mistakes.
2. 12 hour shifts is also not fair and does not take in to consideration the unique nature of the job. It can be very difficult to find a co-driver and the owners sometimes have to work longer hours especially on the weekend to cover various expenses that come with the job. It should be at least 14 hours!
3. First time vehicles on the road should be a maximum four years, not three. We are already working overtime to pay the current fees, it would put a lot of extra stress on us to have to spend more money on a vehicle more frequently.
4. There should be a law that the customers have to pay money in advance from sunset to sunrise if the fair is picked up from an unknown address or building. This has been a serious issue for cab drivers and the police for a long time with people running away after they are dropped off and it could be easily avoided.
5. Lastly, there should be a protective shield in the cab at night from sunset to sunrise to help the drivers feel safe. There has been an increase in violence over the years and this should be a standard by now.