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UNCLASSIFIED

To whom it may concern,

Currently the fare in NSW is already too much compare with other States and other places in the world (probably the most expensive).

A specific example:

I used to work in Canberra and wherever I lived the fare from 1 end to the other end of Canberra cost me \$82.00 monthly which is almost my weekly fare here in Sydney.

Now that I am based temporarily in Sydney my fare cost \$284.00 a month or \$71.00/week.

\$41.00 x 4 weeks = \$164.00 (train ticket from Blacktown to the City)
+ \$30.00 x 4 weeks = \$120.00 (bus fare from our resident to Blacktown
station cost 6.00/day x 5 days a week)

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\$284.00 (4 weeks transportation fare for 1 person)

So if husband and wife are both working in the City and living around 30 - 40 kms away, it cost the family almost \$600.00 (just imagine spending that amount of money in just transportation alone).

In Melbourne, you are allowed to use your train ticket in boarding a bus or a tram while in NSW if you live in the west (I mention west because in the north as far as I can remember, you can use your train ticket, which is very ironic if you know what I mean) you have to pay the bus separately unless you have a combined train and bus ticket which still cost you, your train and bus fare. Also if you have a 1 way ticket which is good for 2 hours, you can still use it within the zone, where as in Sydney you are only allowed to use your train ticket in one place or exit.

If you have children going to University, like in my case, 10 years ago I have 3 daughters in university and I spent almost \$700/month on just bus and train fare which is almost 30% of my income/monthly without their allowance for food, etc.

Just imagine now, after 10 years of several increases what an ordinary family is costing them just for transportation alone.

So whoever has the idea of increasing the fare should think twice because instead of making life easier for the majority of the people here in NSW, you are one of the causes of the increasing depression in the family.

Besides if you are boarding a train from Blacktown, you are lucky if you can get a seat and now you are planning to increase the fare by 17% in this coming year.

Are you aware or take into consideration that the increase in salary is only between 2% to 5% unless you are a part of the management which most of us don't.

Where do you then base your increase?

Are you trying to make this country worse than a 3rd world country?

No wonder if this country will become a third world country in a few years by the way you make a decision where majority of the people are now homeless because of too much high rent, high cost of housing, high cost of food and other commodities and now high cost of fare.

Majority of the people can no longer cope with the high cost of living now and instead of helping and making life easier, I repeat you are making our life more miserable.

Best regards,

Ofelia Enriquez