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Price Fixing - A New Example

As many of you know, the manufactured housing industry has engaged with the challenge of rent control (a form of price fixing) for three decades. Interestingly, a state-wide ballot measure set for voter approval or rejection in November 2018 could also affect government mandated rent control for various forms of housing in California.

A recent example of government mandated rent control takes place in Honolulu. That city has decided that “surge” pricing by Uber and Lyft is improper and, we assume, is seen as unconscionable or otherwise morally wrong. The irony is that, according to Uber, not a single consumer complaint about their pricing has ever been received! So what will be the impact of this form of rent control in the economic model of ride sharing? While not yet in effect one could speculate that the number of Uber and Lyft drivers may well decrease. How will that best serve the ride sharing community?

In many cities, there is fierce competition between traditional taxis and the new ride share services. Whatever the pros and cons of that competition, we think it’s safe to say the imposition of price controls will have a negative impact on both drivers and riders.

For more information, [click here](#).



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Hart King represents publicly held corporations, mid-sized businesses and entrepreneurs in all state and federal courts within California. The firm offers a wide range of civil litigation and transactional services in the areas of business, commercial real estate, manufactured housing, professional design & construction, and trust and estate matters.

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