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1 October 2015

Research Director
Infrastructure, Planning & Natural Resources Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE Q 4000

Dear Sir / Madam

**RE: SUBMISSION
TRANSPORT LEGISLATION (TAXI SERVICE) AMENDMENT BILL 2015**

I am a self-funded retiree, taxi licence owner and very concerned Australian citizen.

The Obvious

- Taxi Licence - issued by Government at considerable cost to investor/owner
- Regulated - rightly so and heavily by Government
- Security - cameras and GPS tracking required by Government & daily criminal & driving history checks on all drivers
- Vehicle Safety - very stringent requirements by Government
- Insurance - extensive cover & expensive to comply with Government regulations
- Disability Service - provided by taxi industry
- Fare Structure - maximum set by Government
- Reporting - full reporting to Transport Main Roads & auditable records required

Uber & Other Ride Share

- Totally disregard of all the above
- Only operate when and where it suits
- Offer no disability service (breach of the Discrimination Act)
- No security provided for customers
- Minimal (if any) security/criminal checks on drivers
- No safety checks on vehicles
- No fare structure – charge by demand (breach of Consumer Competition Act)
- No regulated insurance (comprehensive or public liability insurance)

Outlaws

Uber totally ignore all Government directives.

Uber willingly pays all fines (at this stage) so they know they are breaking the law

Uber actively tries to block Transport Officers from doing their job.

Uber pay no GST or Aust tax on their profits and no doubt many of their drivers are working "tax free"

The Economic Situation

Uber is resisting paying GST

Uber profits go overseas no or little Australian tax paid

Uber drivers are only replacing other employee so no benefits there

Taxi drivers & owners are mums & dads and OTHERS WHO DO PAY TAX, DO PAY GST AND DO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMY

Who is running this show?

At this stage the Government has done very little to protect the industry.

The law is being broken and the Government appears to be sitting on their hands.

The Government is not protecting the public or the law-abiding industry.

If this is allowed to continue – what next?

- Uber medical services by unlicensed doctors?
 - Uber dental services by unlicensed dentists?
 - Uber building services by unlicensed builders?
 - Uber airline services by unlicensed pilots?
- etc etc etc

Where do you draw the line?

Appropriate action must be taken and it must be done without further delay.

It beggars belief that we even need to be going through all this to stop society as we know it disintegrating. PLEASE create a level playing field.

Compensation

Through my super fund I have outlaid a significant proportion of my fund's assets. I, like many others, would have no option but to seek compensation from any Government that was to allow rogue operators in to destroy our livelihood and devalue something basically sold to us by the Government.

I totally support this bill and any other measures by our Government to ensure the law is upheld.

Yours faithfully


RICHARD PERCIVAL