

Document submission to parliamentary committee

Re; UBER illegal taxi Service Company

www.parliament.qld.gov.au/documents/tableOffice/BillMaterial/150916/Taxi

Honoured members of parliament

UBER is operating without a hiccup for more than a year now, ignoring our laws, rules and regulations and a bully foreign company.

I am an owner of a taxi and a taxi licence. In order to purchase this licence, my wife and I spent all our savings and borrowed money from the bank to pay the government through the department of Queensland transport, which I paid at the Greenslopes branch. Since illegal taxis were introduced to the business, my income went downhill, thus threatened livelihood of my family and I. Some politicians may describe UBER as innovative and popular as it incorporates modern technology. Although this may be true, it is in fact ruining lives of taxi operators, making it extremely hard to earn a living. Not only is it hurting the operators, UBER is destroying the economy as it fundamentally disagrees with regulations of our country.

Let me explain these words one by one

Innovation:

- Just because UBER may have slightly better technology, it doesn't give them the right to steal the opportunity for taxi operators to earn a living.

Popularity:

- The only reason UBER is so popular is simply due to the fact that it is cheap! If UBER drivers were forced to incur overhead expenses (listed below) that taxi operators are forced to pay, I can guarantee that their prices would increase tremendously, thus creating a level playing field

Make them pay exactly what taxis pay like the following:

- **Taxi Licence**
- **Registration**
- **Inspection to wise a year**
- **Authorisation,**
- **Accreditation**
- **Insurance comprehensive**
- **Security levy**
- **Yearly licence fees**

Stealing our Business

- A powerful, yet very harmful American company invaded our country and has made it extremely difficult for us taxi operators to earn a living and take care of our families. Licence owners and driver as myself have spent

our hard-earned savings and borrowings to invest in taxi licences. UBER understands the vulnerability of taxi licence owners and drivers however they still decide to take most of what little of what we have. Both state and federal governments seem to be doing very little to nothing in our defence. Is it too much to ask for those who uphold the laws to create a level playing field?

Fundamentally Disagrees:

- UBER's business model is to maximise profits without paying expenses, tax and GST. Fundamentally, this disagrees with the regulations of most countries around the world. UBER charges the service fee by credit card and the money goes straight to American economy. I do not see how this positively impacts the Australian economy. I strongly urge the parliamentary committee to save the 15,000 small business operators and 2,800 private owners from a devastating collapse caused by the illegal and bullying foreign company, UBER.

Yours respectfully,
Gebreamlak Bahta

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