



To: The Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee
By e-mail: ipnrc@parliament.qld.gov.au

To Whom it may Concern

Cairns Airport and Cairns Taxis are long term partners in the provision of ground transport to airport passengers and other airport users.

Cairns Taxis are a vital component of our overall ground transport network. The group is made up of many small business owners and employees who contribute directly to the regional economy and they and their families provide flow on business to a range of other local operators such as mechanics, panel beaters, tyre shops, fuel outlets, car sales outlets, schools, general retailers, cafes & restaurants, entertainment venues and so on.

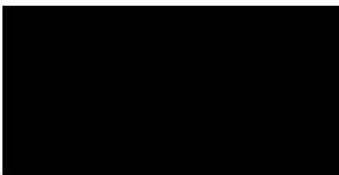
We understand that a Private Members Bill has been presented to amend Section 65 of the Transport Operations Passenger (Transport Operations) Act (1994) to the Queensland Parliament to attach demerit points to the driver's licence when that driver is found to be carrying fare paying passages illegally.

We support this bill as we believe this action will help address some of the many issues currently being identified in relation to alternative transport options that may be operating illegally. These issues include business and driver credentials and compliance as well as passenger safety and security.

Cairns Airport is currently investigating methods to ensure new forms of public transport operating at our facility comply with all the requirements we already have in place for our existing ground transport network of taxis, limousines, coaches and rental cars. We urge the Queensland Government to do the same to ensure that all operators are required to adhere to the same conditions, providing a level playing field for business operations and a safer and more secure environment for customers.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Yours faithfully



Fiona Ward
GENERAL MANAGER COMMERCIAL