

Submission No. 123  
11.1.10  
14 October 2015

Bereket Nwatu

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Queensland State Member of Parliament,

Taxi transport bill amendment reviewing committee.

Hello and thank for you give us the chance.

I am a Taxi owner and driver and have been driving for 14 years. The first 9 years I was leasing a licence from a taxi plate owner with a partner. Then we bought a taxi plate in 2009, borrowing money from NAB bank using our home equity. Three years later in 2012 we purchased another one by borrowing from the bank through home equity since we had enough of it. At the time we decided to split so now we have one each. The expenses were \$ 485,000 and an additional \$15,000 stamp duty which is \$500,000 in total. I am currently still paying the bank. \$7,000. Registration mostly goes to CPT \$6,000 insurance and other running expenses to comply with the regulation will be around \$40,000 to \$50,000. The age of the a taxi is only six years and we constantly have to replace them even when they are in good condition to comply with the regulation. Since Uber has come to Brisbane my income is decline harshly. If Uber stays in Brisbane and continues to break the law and take our business I do believe any taxi operator will survive. I will be homeless, jobless and queue in Salvation Army. A taxi owner is small business owner and destroying the taxi industry is ruining thousands of small businesses. To stop this corruption, there must be an end to Uber by losing demerit points as a fine so they are unable to drive for Uber. Yellow cab and black & white cab do not own the taxi plate as they are a booking company and the actual owners are individual small business owners. Your honourable Member of Parliament, you may not be aware but 50% percent of Uber cars are ex-taxi and legally they cannot be used as a public transport. I strongly hope the bill passes and becomes a law. Thank you. My number is [REDACTED] and email is [REDACTED] if you need to contact me.

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Yours sincerely, Bereket Nwatu.