

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: The Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015.
Date: Wednesday, 14 October 2015 10:19:27 PM

Dear Committee Members,

I welcome the initiative of Mr Rob. Katter MP in introducing the proposed amendment to counter current and future illegal taxi operators.

It is disconcerting the both the current and previous State Governments are seemingly reluctant to address the current operations of an overseas company prepared to contravene our State Government laws (and Commonwealth tax laws) and rely on the tide of self generated "public opinion" to sway politician's into not addressing the matter.

I will not recount the many aspects of the illegal operation as I am sure our Industry organisation (TCQ) and many Taxi companies will recount the specific concerns for the committee to consider.

As an taxi industry operative for 32 years in regional north Queensland I have seen the industry constantly adapt to changing technology to provide efficient services to the public.

Individual taxi owners have invested their life savings in obtaining a taxi licence and their livelihood and capital investment (superannuation) is at risk.

The industry in general has worked co-operatively with state government regulators to constantly improve accountability and service to the public.

In addition, operators have over many years dutifully paid annual licence fees, operator accreditation fees, security levies, vehicle inspection fees etc. to the State Government to ensure a viable industry.

I urge the committee to provide a favourable report recommending the adoption of the proposed Bill to the Parliament.

In your deliberations please consider if the state wishes to maintain a viable regulated taxi industry or destroy the taxi industry to obtain an unregulated spasmodic arrangement which I suspect will not provide the ranges of services the public currently enjoy (and expect) through the taxi industry.

Please also consider the financial impact of Parliament's decision on all taxi industry operatives.

Regards,
Stephen Jones

