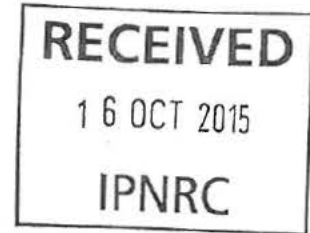


I0606  
11.1.10  
#133

Allan and Desley Taylor

The Infrastructure, Planning & Natural Resources Committee  
Parliament House  
George St  
Brisbane Q 4000



Dear Mr. Jim Pearce MP (Chairman) and Committee Members,

RE: Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015. (Ref. 11.1.10C)

Thank you for the invitation to present a submission .

We ask that you give favourable consideration to the implementation of the Proposed Amendment to Transport Operation (Passenger Transport) Act 1994, specifically to introduce demerit points against those providing a taxi service without a taxi service license or peak demand taxi permit.

In support of our request we ask that you consider the following facts.

My husband has owned a Brisbane Taxi Plate since the 1980s. It is currently leased to Black & White Cabs, Brisbane & we rely on the monthly income to support our retirement.

We do not receive the Age Pension.

This Taxi Plate has always been operated within the Legislative Guidelines determined by the Qld. Government, with all Regulations strictly adhered to.

Conversely, UBER's Business Plan is to operate completely outside the laws legislated for the Taxi Industry. Further it demands that these laws be changed to support its illegal operations.

Its drivers are not required to own a taxi plate or have a taxi licence. They do not have proper commercial insurance or registration, nor do they operate safety cameras or a 24/7 GPS system. Their cars are not inspected & they do not pay the necessary operating costs to comply with Govt. Regulations. As a consequence of this Business Plan of non-compliance their costs are minimal, with the result Cut Price fares are charged for, what we would argue, is an unsafe, illegal service. Many in the community select the cheap option without understanding the possible consequences. As a result the Taxi Industry in Qld. is under extreme threat.

It should be particularly noted that Taxi travel for the disabled, veterans and also special needs children and adults is at risk if the current Taxi Industry collapses. UBER drivers give no guarantee of 24/7 services for these residents.

We understand that Fair Competition should be the aim but this means a Level Playing Field must exist. At this time UBER is operating with unfair advantages!

To date the fines imposed by Govt. have not succeeded in reining in their operations whilst the Qld. Taxi Strategic Plan 2010-2015 is reviewed. In fact, we understand UBER itself has paid fines & encouraged their drivers to keep flaunting the current laws.

Now that this Review is to be extended until August 2016, it is important for the survival of the Taxi Industry, in the interim, that UBER's practices be curtailed. The end result should then be fair to all.

This proposed Amendment would, in our opinion, go a long way to achieving this goal and we ask that you recommend to Parliament that it be legislated?

Yours faithfully

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Allan Taylor Desley Taylor

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