

To The Infrastructure, Planning, and Natural Resources Committee.

Submission No. 155
11.1.10
18 October 2015

Dear committee members,

18/10/2015

I am a concerned citizen of Queensland, who has noticed a change in the ability of state governments to develop good policy, good laws and to enforce these laws. It seems that some policy areas that should be well governed are neglected because they are not fashionable or constantly in the media.

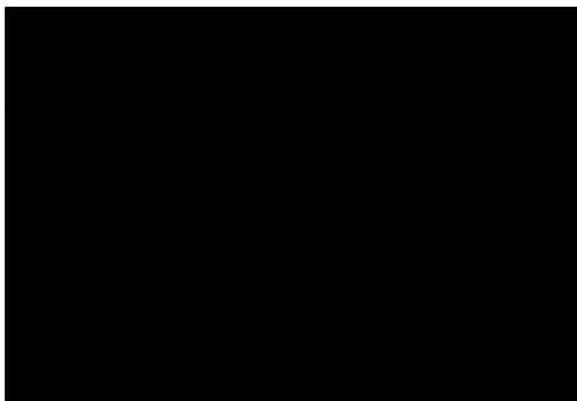
Such an area is transport in Queensland. After reading the newspapers and social media, listening to the news, talking to my friends and family, and seeing the rally last week, I have seen that the taxi industry is unfairly criticised. I am concerned about digital disruption when it is unchecked and competes unfairly with government regulated businesses. This sort of transport disruption is by the American company Uber, which is trying to operate in many countries, and is involved in many law suits worldwide. Since it doesn't cooperate with governments, it acts as if it is above the law.

The people that I know in the taxi industry are scared that their businesses and livelihoods will disappear, and leave them with no income. They bought their licences on the understanding that they could provide a good service and be paid for it. All along paying their taxes and other costs that contribute to government coffers. They never thought that another entity could enter the state and obey nil laws and nil regulations. These people don't want to go on Newstart or the age pension but it is a distinct possibility in the near future. The founder of Uber only wants to amass huge wealth without any contribution to society anywhere in the world. Enabling the growth of this company through inaction is a depressing view of the future.

Please act and vote in our state parliament to amend the Passenger Transport Act -1994, to include driver demerit points and impoundment of vehicles of drivers acting illegally in this state, and help this industry survive and prosper.

Sincerely

Sally Damerow



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