

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Courier Mail Article 10/10/2015-----Response. Submission to Parliamentary Committee.
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 5:42:52 PM

Dear Sir,

I wish to put forward as a submission a response I wrote to a Courier Mail article . I believe all the information contained is relevant to the proposed demerit point legislation. This response has already been delivered to all Queensland politicians.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 10 October 2015 1:31 PM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Courier Mail Article 10/10/2015-----Response

Courier Mail article – ‘Uber review boss defends 10-month time frame and calls for ceasefire between ride-share service and taxis’

My response:

A reality check would be in order on the Taxi verses Uber debate. The argument on technology change is a poor one. Taxi Companies had apps before Uber arrived. The basics are if you order a service from Uber or a Taxi company , a car and a driver will arrive and take you where you want to go. The only difference being, one will be cheaper than the other, one will be operating legally the other illegally. Quite simply operating legally and complying with all the safety requirements of the Government regulator costs more.

The debate is therefore not about "digital disruption" or 'technological change". It is what we as a society are prepared to accept from the Corporate citizens of the world and is the promotion of anarchy acceptable to produce a financial outcome for an American multinational company based in the tax haven of Amsterdam. Good Corporate citizens usually don't make a habit of entering another jurisdiction and recruit people to break the law. That habit is usually more aligned with industries like the illegal drug trade.

Queenslanders and politicians especially need to understand how Uber operates and a little history. Uber commenced business five years ago and originally the commission charged on each fare was 5%. In line with industry standards. With their expansion this figure has grown from 20% to 35%, varies from country to country. Currently 20% in Australia, 25% in America. You also must understand the ultimate goal of Uber the company--- a recent statement in the Wall Street Journal says it all, "to increase customer's fares and pay driver's less". This is one enormous money grab worldwide, tax free. The Uber CEO Travis Kalanick has made it quite clear that he would like to see the demise of the Taxi industry. The fares might be cheap now , what does the future hold? The Government is incapable of enforcing the law now, they will have no chance in the future. You also have to understand who is providing the cheap fares, the Uber drivers. The burn and churn commodity who after a couple of years end up with a worn out car, an average \$6 to \$8 an hour after all costs and the everlasting gratitude of their customers. This scenario probably explains why the American drivers are organising a nationwide strike for the 16th to 18th October to protest the exploitation.

I say to the Government, if the laws are not enforced NOW and the DEMERIT point amendments legislated now the Taxi industry will be on its knees by March. A Compliance officer was spoken to last night and he admitted that the order was look but don't enforce. I challenge the Deputy Premier to produce the figures on the

number of fines for illegal taxi services since the 30/06/2015 for public scrutiny.

This current situation is not a fair go , this is not the Australian way. Never have I heard of a company facilitating illegal activities being allowed to continue to operate while the Government conducts a 12 month review. The Deputy Premier stated a few days ago that Uber drivers would continue to be fined. That has been contradicted by QT staff. How does the Taxi industry and the 20,000 people who depend upon it get a fair go. I say to all other small business people---this wont be the last industry to be hijacked by a foreign multinational. I believe Margaret Thatcher got it right " Freedom is only possible under the rule of law".

Take into consideration when assessing the pro's and con's. Uber are banned in sixteen countries including two of the biggest economies in Europe, Germany and France. One hundred and seventy(170) legal actions in the US. Three major legal battles in Australia , one with the ATO.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber- The Never Ending Story Of Government Paralysis.
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 7:51:25 PM

Dear Sir,

I wish to present the following letter to the Qld Premier as a submission to the committee considering the demerit point legislation.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

John Rahilly.
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 17 April 2015 6:12 PM

Subject: Uber- The Never Ending Story Of Government Paralysis.

Dear Premier,

Governments take office with an amount of goodwill. What happens to that goodwill is up to the Government. You are squandering this goodwill as you break a promise to protect the incomes of hard-working Queenslanders from powerful multinationals who evade taxes in this country.

I am again writing about the Taxi Industry and your government's failure to act on the illegal Uber services. They break Queensland laws, they do not pay tax and they jeopardise the safety of passengers. You promised during the election campaign to fix this by issuing demerit point deductions for Uber drivers. Your lack of action is contrary to your pre-election commitment to Taxi Council Queensland. This is of much frustration to the Taxi Industry, which strongly supported the Labour Party during the election campaign. It is a shame to see that your Government, Ms Palaszczuk, appears to be the same as others.

Premier, spare a thought for the many thousands of Queenslanders who directly, or indirectly, earn a living from the Taxi Industry. I know many people whose whole working lives have been in this industry. People who started as drivers, graduated to leasees and then owners. They borrowed against their homes and put their faith in Government that the piece of paper called a Taxi licence had value and would be their superannuation. They would be self-funded retirees, not pensioners. They worked their 70 and 80 hour weeks and their incentive was that license.

Now that we read that the future of these Queenslanders is in serious doubt. According to an article in the Courier-Mail on April 11, a licence that was worth more than \$500,000 in Brisbane before Uber could be worth as little as \$150,000. Is this fair? Is it the Australian way to let an industry that has followed every government order fall by the wayside at the expense of a tax-evading multinational? The Taxi Industry has had its critics but it looks after the disabled and elderly in our society, it implements all the safety orders to protect customers, it is self-funded and it relies on no Government subsidies. The Taxi Industry is tax compliant and is there for Queenslanders 24/7.

Is this the way Queensland's Taxi Industry- and Its thousands of licence owners, drivers and leasees should be treated? You are throwing them on the scrap heap to make way for a Silicon Valley start-up that takes no responsibility for the service provided.

Premier, the industry was advised by Queensland Transport's Keith Boyer at recent public meetings that there would be a seven to 12-month wait to issue demerit points to Uber drivers and other opportunist start-ups. This is great news to the multinationals. This is terrible news for Queensland workers.

Here are some points to note:

1. Uber breaks the law every time its drivers operate in Queensland. That is not in doubt. Are some Queensland laws more important than others?
2. You are publicly concerned at the loss of GST revenue- taxis contribute \$95 Million per annum. Taxi drivers are not subject to the \$75,000 cap and pay GST from the first dollar earned. Given the Uber business model it would be safe to assume no GST will be collected should you fail to support the Taxi Industry.
3. The safety of passengers will be seriously compromised: unmarked vehicles, no inbuilt GPS tracking, no fatigue management for drivers, doubtful criminal checks on drivers, no six-monthly vehicle inspections, no security cameras, doubtful insurance, a surge pricing model up to 10 times the normal fares based on demand, and workplace health and safety and duty of care issues for employers utilising an illegal taxi service for employees. All assurances given by Uber have to be taken on trust. Given their law breaking antics worldwide that would have to be a huge leap of faith.
4. The demise of the Taxi Industry would end the 24/7 services to the public. The Government would be required to increase costly public transport services. I'm not exaggerating. Uber drivers would focus on the most profitable work and taxi drivers would not be able to maintain a business. Not all taxi work is profitable. It is a balanced industry. The 24/7 service would end.
5. The so called digital disruptor companies can be a significant benefit to industries that have underperforming assets. For example, the apps for the accommodation industry don't break the law and provide a significant boost to occupancy rates. It is a win-win situation. This is not the case in the Taxi Industry which is already highly productive. The recent competition report stated there was no productivity gains to be achieved. Gullible Governments are yet to realise that the Uber business model is flawed and not sustainable. It is a model based on the burn and churn of drivers. Their business model and lower charges is ably assisted by not paying GST – a luxury that the Taxi Industry does not enjoy.
6. The legal terms and conditions of Uber state "The quality of the transportation services scheduled through the use of the service or application is entirely the responsibility of the third party provider who ultimately provides such transportation services to you. You understand, therefore, that by using the application and the service, you may be exposed to transportation that is potentially dangerous, offensive, harmful to minors, unsafe or

otherwise objectionable, and that you use the application and the service at your own risk”.

7. Uber regards Australia as an easy target because of the weakness of our state governments in enforcing laws. I also understand that Lift, another ride sharing app (read illegal taxi company) partially owned by Richard Branson has now quietly shifted into the country. You would be aware Premier that Uber has been banned, or fighting legal battles in many countries including China, Thailand, Taiwan, South Korea, India, Germany, Belgium, France, The Netherlands and many states in the US.

Premier, all this industry ever asked for was a level playing field. You gave us a commitment before the election. It is now time to honour it. Not next week, next month, next year, but now.

You have bipartisan support to pass the demerit points legislation. Uber has already had a free run for 12 months. This breed legitimacy. Your Government is all about retaining and creating jobs.

Premier, this industry enjoys a nearly 90 per cent satisfaction rating by the Government's own measures. It is regulated for a reason, and that is customer and driver safety. Nothing is perfect in this world, including taxis and governments. We can all do better. I ask you to do that now by supporting the Taxi Industry.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly

P.S. In the interest of full disclosure, this email will be sent to every Queensland MP, it will also be distributed via Facebook. If you respond in any way, that information will also be distributed.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber and the Election.
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 8:19:27 PM

Dear Sir,

I wish to submit this letter to the previous Government to the committee considering the demerit point legislation. I would point out that the Uber issue commenced in May 2014. Using Facebook boosting, this particular letter was seen by 350,000 Queenslanders in the three days prior to the election and particularly targeted Ashgrove and Indooroopilly. I would also like to point out to the Committee that this and all the letters to the Premier since, which I will forward--- none have been answered.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 28 January 2015 12:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Uber and the Election.

Dear Premier and Transport Minister

Question: If a foreign-owned company was acting illegally in Queensland and threatening the livelihoods of tens of thousands of law-abiding and tax-paying people, would you act?

Answer: Obviously not.

This is happening in the taxi industry, where your government's complete lack of interest will soon force thousands of self-funded retirees on to pensions.

The illegal taxi company Uber is operating in broad daylight, flouting the laws that everyone else in the Queensland taxi industry must abide by.

Yet, if Uber was a tattoo parlour owned by bikies, you would shut it down and shout out about how tough you are on lawbreakers.

When did this State Government decide to selectively enforce the state's laws?

Why has this Government done nothing to prevent Uber from acting illegally other than issue a "cease and desist" notice - and then turn a blind eye?

Why is the taxi industry represented by a Transport Minister who has shown no will or direction

to enforce the laws?

Is it because a former National Party Premier is a registered lobbyist for Uber?

Is it because Uber has made donations to the LNP?

Is it because a Transport bureaucrat is a Uber supporter? Does this bureaucrat know well the Young Liberal Member who recently put forward a proposal to the LNP conference to deregulate the taxi industry?

Is this deregulation by stealth? The last government in Australia to deregulate the taxi industry was in the Northern Territory. They re-regulated four years later.

Why did they re-regulate?

Because, without oversight, people were left high and dry.

Who provides the 24-7 services?

Who does the driver criminal checks?

Who ensures security cameras are in place for the safety of all?

Who insists on GPS tracking of vehicles?

Who does the six-month safety checks on vehicles?

Who ensures that proper insurance is paid to protect passengers?

Premier and Transport Minister, thousands of Queensland taxi owners pay this government plenty to ensure the above are all done.

Uber pays nothing, yet takes its profits overseas while ripping off the law-abiding Queenslanders who think they're doing the right thing.

Premier and Transport Minister, if you oversaw this incompetency in a private business, you would be sacked. You have failed to enforce the law and failed to ensure the safety of Queenslanders.

You say that you have handed out 173 penalty infringement notices to 81 Uber drivers. Yet, according to the most reliable advice on Uber's operations in Queensland, the law is being broken about 12,000 times a week. Your strike rate is embarrassing.

You have an ethical dilemma - why do you allow this to happen while Queenslanders suffer? Is there a reason that we don't know about?

The voters of Ashgrove and Indooroopilly will judge you on your actions this weekend. I am a Liberal National Party supporter but your leadership on this issue is a disgrace.

Change is needed. The 3000 Queensland small business owners whose livelihoods rest on the performance of their taxis will push for that change this weekend.

Kind regards
John Rahilly

PS. In the interests of full disclosure, this email will be sent to every Queensland MP. It will also be distributed via Facebook. If you respond in any way, that information will also be distributed.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: uber
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 8:28:50 PM
Attachments: [Drivers Wanted.docx](#)

Dear Sir,

I wish to submit the following communication to the Premier with reference to the demerit point legislation. As per usual there was no reply.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 5 May 2015 10:55 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: uber

Dear Premier,

For your information Uber are now advertising on Seek for drivers(see attached).

I now wonder why I ever bothered following the legislation and regulations surrounding the taxi industry for the last 22 years? Are law abiding citizens now a thing of the past?

I now wonder if I had a few billion dollars in the coffers and was an Australian would I achieve the same free ride as Uber is achieving?

I now wonder why I spoke to 140 owners, operators and drivers a week or so ago and suggested they don't even think about strike action let alone do it, the Government will do the right thing?

I now wonder why the legislation to facilitate the issuing of demerit points to Uber drivers is not being rushed through Parliament with bipartisan support being available? Are Amsterdam based American Silicon Valley companies so untouchable?

I now wonder why in my home state is the Australian idea of a fair go apparently so unachievable?

I now wonder when I watched a Channel 9 news report tonight of a bashed taxi driver on the Gold Coast how a Uber driver would survive with no emergency alarm, no GPS with his phone thrown out the window and no way the police could locate him?

I now wonder why you and your Government won't act decisively and what more information do you need to protect Queenslanders and uphold the laws of the state in a meaningful way?

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 9:07:57 PM

Dear Sir,

I wish to add the following letter to the Premier to my submissions to the Committee with reference to the demerit point legislation. I might add , another unanswered communication. I sometimes wonder if I am even regarded as a citizen of Queensland . I was born here and lived here all my life.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 19 May 2015 10:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Uber

Dear Premier,

I ask for your indulgence in once again raising the issue of Uber. An issue which appears to have disappeared off the radar of everybody except those engaged in the legal operation of taxis. I would like to highlight a few more relevant points to those made in previous correspondence.

This communication was partly inspired by an interview on 3AW by Neil Mitchel with the Victorian Labour Transport Minister. When asked whether Uber was illegal – the minister stuttered through with “Well yes, but that is the way they do business all over the world” (as if somehow this gives Uber credibility). She followed with, “Basically, it’s a very tricky situation, and you know a lot of people like Uber” (Politics again). When the interviewer responded with “A lot of people like cannabis, are you going to legalise that too” the minister ducked for cover. The Uber argument is being trivialised and I make two points Premier, incumbency breeds legitimacy and the law is the law is the law.

Uber is establishing a template for hijacking established industries. Ubers actions not only undermine taxis, but all state regulations. It would be reasonable to assume that there will be nothing to stop any other type of operation from commencing with no regard for existing regulation. The prospect of a much greater impending policy failure across the broader business community is realistic. The interests of the Queensland public, not commercial interests, should be front and centre for the Queensland parliament.

To further highlight safety issues, it has become apparent that opportunist entrepreneurial types

are not only performing Uber work, but using that as a platform to build their own private taxi customer base. From a safety perspective, totally untraceable. This was highlighted by business cards with Uber advertising but private mobile phone numbers with instructions on how to order outside the Uber system.

Further to the above, there are also Uber drivers advertising on Seek and Gumtree basically leasing their vehicles and presumably their identity for periods in which they are not available to drive. Surely a recipe for disaster.

I have spoken to police at the coal face who acknowledge that Uber is a disaster waiting to happen, not if but when. As I have stated ad nauseam with the Uber phone out the window these vehicles are untraceable.

Finally, the Uber model is designed as a churn and burn for drivers. Social media sites used by Uber drivers already highlight the fact that taking into account all costs, including depreciation of their vehicles, a return for labour would be \$7-\$8 per hour. With the latest decrease in fares in Melbourne of 15% for Uber X, and an increase in Uber Black Fares of 20%, Uber are destroying the investment of Uber Black owners, who are legal and creating a working class poor in the illegal Uber X.

Premier, I am hopeful that this information will resonate with you and three actions will occur:

1. That the demoralised transport compliance unit will be rewarded for their good work to date with further resources.
2. That as a matter of urgency, Parliament moves to effect the necessary legislative changes to have demerit points applied to all individuals carrying out illegal taxi work with impoundment of vehicles for repeat offenders.
3. Amendments be made to make the Queensland Police Service responsible for the issue of fines and demerit points to all persons undertaking illegal taxi work.

Uber is a recipe for anarchy, chaos and mayhem. It is incumbent on Government to provide safety for its citizens and to enforce the laws of the state.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber : Private and Confidential
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 9:17:40 PM

Dear Sir,

Another letter to the Premier, that received no response, which I would like added to my submission on the demerit point legislation consideration. At this point the feeling was that the Government was going to honour the election promise.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 25 May 2015 10:19 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Uber : Private and Confidential

Dear Premier,

I was heartened to hear of your support for the taxi industry and your safety concerns with Uber in Rockhampton yesterday and on ABC radio this morning.

As a supporter of taxi industry reform for many years I believe that the Uber challenge has energised the industry to do better and I trust that will continue.

Queensland is way out in front of the other states in addressing the issue and I have nothing but praise for Transport Compliance officers.

While Uber the company continues to pay the fines their drivers do not have the deterrent in place to cease operating. I am concerned with Uber's expansion to the north, Transport compliance will be stretched to address the issue in a meaningful way. There was a recruitment meeting for Uber drivers in Rockhampton last Monday night.

The issuing of demerit points and the impounding of vehicles for repeat offenders is the key to closing down Uber's operations. Uber insiders inform me that the company itself recognises this and Queensland could lead the way for the rest of the country.

Premier, the constant question is when is the Government going to bring forward the amendments to legislation to facilitate the issuing of demerit points? Keith Boyer advises 7 to 12 months. The time frame seems exceedingly long and the industry wants to know is that correct? Given the ongoing safety issues involved with Uber surely sooner rather than later would be the preferred option.

Mr. Boyer will be at the Yellow Cabs owner's meeting on Wednesday and I am sure he will be bombarded with this question.

Premier there are a lot of worried people in the taxi industry. It is not only Uber but the general

downturn in the economy. Some irrationally blame everything on Uber. The taxi industry is a very high overhead cost business for operators. There is a fine line between profit and loss. There is also the additional complexity of some drivers driving both taxis and Uber. This also brings into play fatigue management questions.

Confidence and stability need to be restored and I respectfully request you take this into account when weighing up the issues and consider making more public statements on the timing of the demerit points legislation.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 9:36:32 PM

Dear Sir,

I never realised how many letters I had written. Could you please add to my submission for consideration by the Committee for demerit point legislation.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 15 June 2015 11:26 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Uber

Dear Premier,

I was pondering how the Silicon Valley outlaws(read Uber) can expand their growing empire. The essential requirements of course are that it would have to be illegal, complement their existing illegal taxi business and enhance their recruitment process of naive participants with promises of massive returns.

Then it struck me, the Government is in the process of curtailing the liquor trading hours in the nightclub precinct. What an opportunity for the outlaws--- unbranded Uber cars, chock a block with eskys full of a wide variety of liquor to suit any taste, no cameras to record this illicit trade (unlike taxis).

How does Uber the company prosper from this? Easy, surge pricing comes into play for " a car with a bar". Two, three, four times the normal rate --- whatever the market will bear. Next step up the commission charge to drivers from 20% to 30% on the fare. A win/win scenario for Uber and the driver. Of course any fines incurred will be paid by Uber (until the model fails) then the driver cops it in the neck.

Hijacking two industries for the price of one ---- good business. Of course the powerful hotel lobby might have something to say about this and I am sure the Valley nightclub owners will be proactive. You have to ask yourself what industry will be next? Uber is not a digital disruptor but a law breaking hijacker. Maybe an unregulated airline, UberAir has a ring to it, air sharing not ride sharing.

Premier when does the madness end, time is of the essence.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: UBER AND IMPOTENT GOVERNMENTS.
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 9:45:26 PM

Dear Sir,

Please add to my list of submissions to the Committee on demerit point legislation.

Kind Regards,

John Rahilly.

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 26 June 2015 2:41 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: UBER AND IMPOTENT GOVERNMENTS.

Dear Premier,

The predictable anarchy, chaos and mayhem over Uber has now ignited in France. Google Uber for all the action.

What can any reasonable, thinking person expect when livelihoods are being stolen by an illegal operation. One group abiding by the law, paying their taxes and charges and the other who believe laws are there to be broken and ignored. In previous correspondence you were warned of this outcome. Whilst Nero fiddled Rome burned and that appears to be your approach to this issue.

As stated on numerous occasions the longer Uber operates the more legitimacy they accrue. Radio stations including 4BC are now running recruitment ads for Uber. What next, drug dealers recruiting delivery drivers for their illegal activities on local radio?

Uber are openly advising their drivers not to apply for an ABN and register for GST. This is a Federal Government requirement by 1st August 2015. Open defiance of Australia's Tax laws.

You and the Government have been given a solution by the Taxi industry and yet you sit on your hands and expedite nothing. Restricting Uber's driver supply by the issuing of demerit points, impoundment of vehicles and police involvement will break the business model. I have provided you with written proof of bipartisan LNP support for the necessary legislative changes. You also gave a pre-election commitment to issue demerit points.

Premier, this is a moment in history when Governments all over the world are being tested by a cashed up Silicon Valley start-up whose business model only works where there is a regulatory framework already in place. Is the advent and acceptance of Uber going to herald the demise of public policy in all areas? Uber Doctors, Uber bottle shops, Uber child care, Uber plumbers, Uber electricians and the list goes on and on. Where does it end----a return to the law of the jungle---survival of the fittest. As long as Uber receives its 20 to 30 percent to the nearest Tax haven. If Uber wins society loses.

The basic responsibility of Government is the safety of its citizens and enforcing the laws of the state. The failure of Government to enforce the existing cease and desist order is reprehensible and reeks of incompetence. A company that is operating and advertising in broad daylight, with a known company address and as I write flyers are being letter box dropped in various Brisbane suburbs outlining Uber's ILLEGAL services. A company that consistently appears in the media promoting and legitimising their illegal activities. Premier are you not embarrassed , if not you should be. To be fair though there are a lot of politicians in the same boat worldwide not just Australia wide. You will all be judged at the ballot box.

Premier, Queensland residents in the Taxi industry are suffering through no fault of their own. What do we hear from your Government-----nothing of substance, the silence is deafening. Industry leaders can't even get a meeting with the Minister. I leave you with these parting thoughts ----- Uber is an unsafe, illegal taxi operation ----- enforce the laws, utilise the police force to assist the under resourced , under staffed , demoralised Qld Transport Compliance unit. Present the amended legislation for demerit points to the Parliament as a matter of urgency. SHOW LEADERSHIP.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber Private & Confidential.
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 9:54:06 PM

Dear Sir,
Please add to my submission for the demerit point legislation.
Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 28 June 2015 3:06 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Uber Private & Confidential.

Dear Premier,
This email is a plea on behalf of the 20,000 odd participants of the Queensland taxi industry. Owners, leasees, operators, drivers are hurting and bleeding financially. They are confused, angry, fearful and amazed that they deserted the LNP at the election to vote in Labour on the basis of an election commitment which WILL solve the Uber crisis. What has happened----- nothing and the best reply received from my local member (Nudgee) , as advised by the Transport Ministers office, is "in due course". Whatever that means, so much for certainty.

Why any Government is treating the law breaking, tax avoiding, cashed up Silicon Valley shysters with kid gloves has me perplexed. This isn't the Australia of a fair go that I thought I knew. Queensland was proactive in closing down the drug dealing bikie gangs and now other states are following suit. Why won't your Government lead the way with Uber? Cut off the driver supply and their business model is dead in the water. No drawn out legal action against Uber the company.

In the past week Uber has cut fares by 10% and dropped their 20% commission for new drivers for three months. Obviously not sustainable in the long term but as I have said ad nauseam "with the passing of time Uber accrues legitimacy". No point in listing all the safety issues again as you are well aware of them. They are the reason that the world wide organised crime ring Uber has to be cut off at the knees with driver demerit points and sent packing.

Premier, given the state of the economy and the Uber effect, if this legislation doesn't go through and isn't acted upon before next year the taxi industry will be decimated. This isn't alarmist rhetoric , this is fact ---- I know many who are struggling now. This is a high fixed cost industry and the banks are nervous already.

I know this industry needs some reforms , I know its problems. I worked closely with Don Brown (snr) on his probe into the taxi industry some years ago. Unfortunately, his recommendations went through to the keeper. I believe we have the best taxi model in Australia , it isn't broke but we can do better.

Yesterday I spoke with a 73 year old owner driver who wants to retire. He can't sell his licence which is his retirement funds and fear is consuming him and his wife.

Also spoke recently to an 80 year old widow, who rang to get some advice, as she is getting close to going into a nursing home and needs to sell her licence to obtain the necessary bond. I assured her the Government would act on the election promise and confidence would return to the market. Was I lying or telling the truth, Premier, I don't even know myself. Therein lies the dilemma ----- there is no communication other than the usual bureaucratic mumbo jumbo, which means nothing and tells you nothing.

Never a day goes by when I am not asked, should we be preparing for a class action against the Government? For the record I have had a private two hour briefing with a barrister. To anyone who asks I say the Government will honour their election promise and the industry won't need to go down that path.

Premier, this isn't a communication I intend to share with anyone other than you. I trust it gives you some insight into where the industry is at. I am passionate about taxis and the people in the game. My self-interest is one licence leased to my old business partner who still runs the Taxi management business I started in 1994.

If I can ever be of assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,
John Rahilly.

P.S. President of France has now banned Uberpop (uberx here). For your information the Uberx model is now banned in South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand, India, Indonesia, South Africa, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain and most areas of China. In America it is banned in the states of Anchorage, Oregon, Nevada, Texas, Alabama, Florida.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber --- The Never Ending Government Paralysis + Letter to QLD Premier.
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 10:31:11 PM

Dear Sir,
Please add to my submission to the Committee for demerit point legislation.
Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 August 2015 6:25 PM

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Uber --- The Never Ending Government Paralysis + Letter to QLD Premier.

To all Australians, below is a letter to the Premier of Queensland which is relevant to all states and territories.

The Taxi industry across the country has been asking for a level playing field and a FAIR GO in dealing with Uber ---- an illegal American immigrant ----- for sixteen months. If they had arrived by boat the Australian Navy could have towed them back where they came from. However, state Governments are so bedazzled by their \$50billion capitalisation they seem incapable of enforcing their own laws. I can't imagine an Australian company enjoying the same freedoms.

For those who may not have heard of Uber. It is a ride-sharing app and Uber aids and abets drivers to break the law and supply an illegal Taxi service.

Google "Uber" and you will find it is banned in many countries around the world and even some states in the US. It is also fighting legal actions in other countries and has even taken on the ATO in Australia. Good luck with that one! There has also been outbreaks of extreme violence in France and Mexico where chaos and mayhem have reigned supreme. Not surprising when peoples livelihoods are being stolen from under their nose. Amazing it hasn't happened here yet.

The Taxi industry isn't perfect (like Governments) and like every other business in the modern world it is constantly evolving. UBER DOES NOT BRING ANYTHING NEW TO THE TABLE, YOU STILL NEED A CAR AND A DRIVER. Uber does bring bundles of money to prosecute their case for legality without the interference of regulation, through winning, dining, donating and of course paying fines for their driver/partners. Interesting to note \$2m in fines in Qld, not one case defended.

I would say if you are fair dinkum there are better ways of showing it. IT IS A CASE OF WE ARE HERE AND WE WILL BREAK YOUR LAWS UNTIL YOU ACCEPT US. Not a recipe for success unless

you are dealing with spineless Governments who can't or won't enforce their own laws. This is a minefield approach and if Uber win this battle you would have to ask yourself WHAT REGULATED INDUSTRY WILL BE TARGETED NEXT.

I say to all Australians, even those who use Uber because it is cheaper as they have no compliance costs and no safety features, give the Taxi industry and its people a FAIR GO and give us a level playing field to compete on.

To those politicians who are counting the votes and saying Uber is popular. Drugs of many varieties are popular too, are you going to legalise them? OR IS IT SIMPLY THE CASE THAT POLITICIANS GET TO DECIDE WHICH LAWS WILL BE ENFORCED AND WHICH WONT----- A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT IN ANY DEMOCRACY.

To all that receive this communication , could you share it in order that we can have a conversation and debate about Uber. Where ever the cards may fall the Taxi industry and its participants, who have done no wrong, are living in a state of uncertainty and fear for their futures and have been for sixteen months. ARE WE GOING TO HAVE TWO LEVELS OF LAW----- ONE FOR CASHED UP MULTINATIONALS AND ONE FOR AUSTRALIAN SMALL BUSINESSES ? That is the real question and where does it take us as a country?

Thank You,
John Rahilly.

P.S. Uber did have options----it could have come into the Taxi industry legally. You have to ask yourself , why didn't they?

Dear Premier & Transport Minister,

The Taxi Industry provides:--

1. A 24/7 service all year round.
2. Security cameras internal and external.
3. Fixed GPS tracking.
4. Marked vehicles with fleet numbers well displayed and a unique registration plate.
5. A regulated maximum fare.
6. Taxi despatch centres with a direct line to police headquarters.
7. Distress alarm for drivers.
8. Braille fleet numbers on doors of taxis for sight impaired customers.
9. Requirement by regulation to travel up to 40kms to pick up a customer.
10. Mechanical inspections of vehicles six monthly by Qld Transport inspectors.
11. Daily criminal checks on all drivers.
12. Training courses provided for drivers under a Registered Training Organisation.
13. Commercial Third party insurance, comprehensive vehicle and public liability insurance--
--- provable.
14. Compulsory First Aid course for drivers.
15. Vehicles no older than 6 years for sedans & wagons, 8 years for Wheelchair accessible vehicles.
16. A wheelchair service second to none in the country with 20% of the fleet wheelchair

accessible.

17. Taxi companies contactable by phone 24/7.
18. Taxi Subsidy scheme facilities for eligible customers.
19. Driver Fatigue Management.
20. Professional taxi drivers with 0% alcohol reading as required by law.
21. Immigration checks on eligible drivers to ensure visa compliance.
22. A LEGAL service to the travelling public.

UBERX PROVIDES NONE OF THE ABOVE.

Australians have fought wars to protect democracy , defend our shores and our way of life. Are we now going to let a cartel of cashed up Silicon Valley opportunists with an app walk into our country, break our laws with impunity, hijack an industry that has stood the test of time over a hundred years, destroy thousands of small businesses of hard working Australians, pay no tax on their profits in Australia, exploit customers with their predatory surge pricing business model, exploit drivers to create working class slaves and finally create the largest unregulated monopoly this country has ever seen.

Uber's legal pages reveal their complete disdain for the service they provide via their driver/partners and I quote;

"The quality of the transportation services scheduled through the use of the service or application is entirely the responsibility of the third party provider who ultimately provides such transportation services to you. You understand , therefore, that by using the application and the service you may be exposed to transportation THAT IS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS, OFFENSIVE, HARMFUL TO MINORS, UNSAFE OR OTHERWISE OBJECTIONABLE, AND THAT YOU USE THE APPLICATION AND SERVICE AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Premier while you and the Transport Minister are fiddling, the Taxi industry is burning and suffering the slow death of a thousand cuts. The silence from your Government is deafening. Uber have now been operating in Queensland for sixteen months. Transport compliance officers have stated there is too many to fine. You have the means at your disposal to end the Uber madness. You have the means to stop this anarchy. You have an election promise to honour. You have the means to give the 20,000 Queenslanders directly or indirectly involved in the Taxi industry a FAIR GO.

As usual I will wait in vain for a reply.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Uber Demerit Point Legislation.
Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015 10:03:44 PM

Dear Sir,

Please add to my submission to the Committee for the demerit point legislation.

Kind Regards,

John Rahilly.

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 14 July 2015 8:55 AM

To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Uber Demerit Point Legislation.

Dear Premier and Transport Minister,

I know you are utterly sick of hearing from me and you probably don't read any of my Uber diatribe anyway. I have come to this conclusion because you never reply. You have no idea how soul destroying this can be to someone with a fragile ego and low self-esteem. Rejection is hard to take and I can assure you the taxi industry is receiving it in spades from your Government.

I have tried every angle to get your attention----- safety, enforcing the laws, insurance or lack thereof, vehicle inspections, security cameras, GPS tracking etc., etc.,. Then a brain snap , what about naming every country Uber are banned in---- I felt like Lucky Starr in " I've Been Everywhere", except using countries not towns. Wrong again , we wanted to be different apparently and be the country they WERE accepted in. But everybody knows Queenslanders are different and I thought ,those Government cease and desist orders, we are still in with a chance here. But no, just like a normal day at the races for me, good try no cigar.

So Premier the industry is rapidly running out of ideas and everyone is getting pretty worried about your election promise. I don't want to come across as cynical but, well, you know politicians in the TRUST stakes are rated a very lowly 30% and bounce around the bottom end of expectations. When I received an email from my local member with a sentence ending with " in due course", that was nearly heart attack material. Of course that was referring to the amendment to legislation for demerit points for Uber drivers. Funny how the mind works, I thought , thank God we only have three year Parliaments, this promise could still be achieved in my life time.

Of course compassion should come into the equation . This is a serious paragraph to explain the unexpected consequences of supporting Uber to all Queenslanders. The Taxi industry is finely balanced to achieve financial viability for its participants and provide services to the public. As a percentage of the total taxi fleet Queensland has more wheelchair accessible vehicles than any other state. To provide that service the industry cross subsidises. To explain in simple terms, the big nights of Friday and Saturday, the long trips to and from the airport help fund the services

during the other quieter times of the week to the disabled, the disadvantaged and the elderly. Uber is only targeting the cream business and is only operating in a relatively small radius from the CBD. The Taxi industry has a regulatory obligation to provide 24/7 service to all of Brisbane and the major provincial cities and towns around the state. We can't just pick and choose when or where we work. The unregulated, illegal Taxi operator Uber, if allowed to continue will ultimately destroy the wheelchair service to the disabled and the 24/7 service to all. This is not scare mongering but fact. It simply won't be financially viable and I ask who will do the work? A very pertinent question to you Premier and the Transport Minister. The Taxi industry is regulated for a very good reason, so we can provide those services. Uber drivers work when they feel like it, no regulation no obligation. Getting a Uber car at 1am on a Monday morning in say Virginia would be akin to winning \$20m in Gold Lotto.

There will be people who read this letter who use Uber and I ask them a simple question? Who do you think is subsidising your cheap fare? If you said Uber, you would be wrong---Uber take their 20% of the top and you might be surprised to know in some places their share is 30%. Not bad money for an app. Back to the fare, the answer is the driver. He supplies the labour, the car, the fuel, the registration, the insurance(doubtful as it may be), the maintenance(tyres, servicing, breakdowns etc.), the depreciation and anything else I haven't thought of, oops the bottled water and the mints. So while he or she is earning \$5 to \$6 an hour, you are getting a cheap fare. Of course you take a chance that surge pricing might be activated, which of course means that you can pay up to 10 times the normal fare and the driver does get a little reward temporarily. Most drivers wake up now about the 12 week mark that they can't make any money in driving for Uber and move on. The classic burn and churn model. So I say to all Queenslanders who use Uber, spare a thought for your fellow Australian when you get that cheap fare. As the old saying goes "there is no such thing as a free lunch", someone has to pay the piper, your driver. Could you also spare a thought for the taxi drivers who sit in ques waiting to get a job and see Uber cars picking up right in front of them. Can you imagine the level of frustration seeing your livelihood disappearing as you watch.

Well, Premier you know the score. The industry wants your pre-election promise honoured ----- demerit points for Uber drivers and others providing an illegal taxi service. The LNP leader has provided bipartisan support in writing, what is the problem? Are we not entitled to know? An industry that supplies \$95m in GST for the state and we cannot even receive a simple answer to a simple question. It may not be well known but the ATO has introduced GST for Uber drivers from the 1/08/2015 but of course that has to be collected, which may be challenging. Naturally, Uber the company will still be taking their share offshore and avoiding tax. When will demerit point legislation for Uber drivers and others be passed by the House? Can it really be that hard?

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

P.S. To all Queenslanders who see this email on Face Book, could you please share. To all who would like to support the Taxi industries services to the disabled and 24/7 service please contact your local member, the Premier or the Minister for Transport. Thank You.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Fines levied on Gold Coast for Illegal Taxi Services provided by Uber.
Date: Friday, 16 October 2015 12:19:07 PM

Dear Sir,
Please add to my current submission to the Committee investigating the demerit point legislation for Uber drivers. Please note there has been no response to this request.
Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: John Rahilly [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 26 September 2015 9:46 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fines levied on Gold Coast for Illegal Taxi Services provided by Uber.

Dear Deputy Premier,
According to Courier Mail story on the 25th September, Uber is claiming 327,000 fares performed for their first year of operation on the Gold Coast.

That relates to the LAW BEING BROKEN 895 times per day. At an average fare of \$15 this results in Uber transferring \$980,000 to its own coffers in Amsterdam tax free. Queensland would have lost \$446,000 in GST revenue. Revenue lost to the regulated Taxi and Limousine industry after GST, \$4,459,000.

My question to you Deputy Premier is HOW MANY FINES WERE LEVIED IN THE GOLD COAST TAXI AREA FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD UP UNTIL THE 24TH SEPTEMBER, TO WHAT VALUE AND HOW MANY SINCE YOU ATTAINED OFFICE. Also how many were levied by the QLD Police Service and how many by Qld Transport Compliance.

Given that I am aware a taxi driver was fined recently, in this modern era, for not having a refidex in his cab, one can only hope that Qld Transport Compliance is just as diligent in fining illegal taxi operators breaking the law 895 times a day in one taxi area.

I will be passing the requested information to the Crime and Corruption Commission with my complaint.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: UBER - THE PARALYSIS OF AN IMMORAL, UNETHICAL QLD GOVERNMENT
Date: Friday, 16 October 2015 12:36:48 PM

Dear Sir,

Please add to my submission to the Committee investigating demerit points for illegal Taxi drivers.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: UBER - THE PARALYSIS OF AN IMMORAL, UNETHICAL QLD GOVERNMENT

Dear Premier and Deputy Premier,

This is not going to be a “politically correct” communication. Factual, YES. Emotive, YES. To the point, YES. Do I expect a reply...NO! You have not answered one of the ten letters in seven months. WHY? Who knows! Maybe you have no answers. Maybe you are not prepared to do anything and don’t want to admit it. Maybe as a born and bred tax paying Queenslander in the Taxi Industry, along with 20,000 others, I just don’t deserve a reply. After promising MUCH pre-emption, your paralysed Government is now doing its best to destroy the Taxi Industry by doing NOTHING.

Then again, that’s like most politicians...Promise plenty, deliver nothing and enjoy the sweet smell of ministerial leather, the associated perks and count the votes for the next election. The polls strangely will react positively for a do-nothing Government with a policy of constant reviews – this is the latest smokescreen for doing nothing with the Taxi Industry and the Uber challenge.

The economy can be crumbling around us (which it is), an industry can be destroyed – as long as we have reviews “She’ll be right mate!” Don’t worry about enforcing the laws, let Uber operate in broad daylight (their HQ is next door to Hendra Police Station), Uber appears on National TV promoting their wares and daring Governments to take a stand. They set up booths in shopping centres recruiting drivers and customers. They hand out flyers in the street. They brazenly walk up to taxi drivers on the ranks to recruit them to the Uber cause. The message they send is simple. “We are going to break your laws until you accept us.” Previous Premiers would be shell shocked as should every Queenslander, at the blatant acceptance of anarchy. I am not proposing a protectionist racket for the taxi industry – Uber could have come into this industry legally – they chose not to and why? Because they would have to comply with the rules and regulations and there would be no scope for their 20% commission of the top of the fare. More like 5%. What do Uber bring to the table for their 20% of every fare? A \$10,000 app and the ability to cajole drivers to supply their vehicles and to break the law whilst promoters sit in their Silicon Valley mansions counting the money. What a great business model – an entrepreneurs dream. All that is needed – morally corrupted unethical Governments without a leadership bone

in their body.

Bring on Queensland. Where taxi drivers get fined for not wearing the correct uniform. Where taxi owners can have their taxi licence suspended or cancelled for not paying the Security Levy of \$373.95. You know the levy the industry pays to keep the citizens of Queensland safe on a taxi rank. But heaven forbid the Government cracks down on illegal taxi operations. Heaven forbid that the Government searches the laws and finds something to charge Uber the company with for aiding and abetting others to break the law. No that's all too hard lets compromise. Don't worry about the law breaking, Don't worry about the safety issues (no fixed GPS tracking, no cameras etc etc etc). Don't worry about the questionable insurance. Don't worry about the 24/7 service. Don't worry about the Wheelchair service to the disabled. Don't worry about the taxi operators that are going to go broke (doing the right thing and obeying the laws). Don't worry about those who will commit suicide when their world disintegrates around them (40 in Victoria after the Fell's inquiry devastated the taxi industry there for absolutely no improvement).

For the record, South Australia compromised by allowing Uber black – the legal limousine model. Not content with that only months later they are barraging the Government with now let's have Uber X. What's the bet? Regardless of Government, they will start that business model anyhow. Why? Because they can. Uber is a law unto itself. No Australian Government has the will or the guts to stand up to them. Pathetic really.

Let's look at the bigger picture. Like the Government, some taxi industry drivers are also having an each way bet, driving taxis for a 12 hour shift and then driving their car for Uber for who knows, how many hours (forget fatigue management). Why? They are trying to earn a decent living. If there was to be a mass migration to Uber, the taxi industry would be on its knees. Any sane person would realise that pricing (no regulation) would go through the roof and of course Uber would raise their commission to 35%. Of course those without a smart phone or a credit card would be out of the picture. The most disadvantaged in society would also be out of the picture – they simply would not be able to afford the luxury of Uber travel. The concept of the taxi industry being a back up to the public transport industry would be finished. The taxi travel pie would also have to be shared amongst who knows how many people as Uber don't care about the financial viability of drivers, so the burn and churn model would continue. More cars on the road, more congestion – probably double the number of the current taxi fleet. Tax evasion will be epidemic and the current \$94M in GST from the taxi industry will be a dim distant memory. Once Uber gets to this position and the taxi industry is decimated, Uber will be in complete control and the Government will have less say than they have now (which is obviously none). Uber is walking all over you Premier and Deputy Premier. And WHY? BECAUSE YOU ARE DOING NOTHING!

Very important Premier and Deputy Premier – let the taxi industry participants live in fear (you have effectively done that for seven months). Don't worry about those who can't sell their licence (their superannuation) to fund their retirement. Don't let them be self-funded retirees – let them be pensioners. Don't worry about the aged widow who can't sell her licence to fund her bond into a nursing home. Don't worry about the young family who put their house on the line to fund a licence, which now the bank says is worth nothing and are going to sell them up.

Just a few tips about other countries (in case you have issues in googling)

1. Denmark- every time you are caught driving a Uber car, fines are doubled from the previous fine. Works a treat they don't have a Uber problem.
2. Sweden – three fines then vehicle impounded. That really works
3. China – big problems for Uber. Uber America had to top up fund raising to Uber China by Half a Billion Dollars to claim a fully subscribed capital raising of \$1.5B. The two major Chinese taxi companies have combined and successfully raised \$2Billion to combat Uber. Their market share is 80% and Uber is around 12%. Just like Amazon and Microsoft, Uber will exit China with their tail between their legs.
4. America – Uber's business model is in doubt with a class action by Ubers 160,000 drivers to claim employee status. This could cost Uber in excess of \$2 Billion and effectively destroy further endeavours.
5. France has already banned Uber X after serious riots.

In closing, honour your election commitment to issue demerit points to Uber drivers. Discontinue your smokescreen of a review which is absolutely meaningless. It would be hypocritical of yourselves to involve Uber, who in their battle with the ATO claim they are not a Taxi business. You are currently playing cheap politics with people's lives (and I mean that literally) and livelihoods for what purpose? To replace an established industry with an unsafe, illegal American import whose only claim to fame is breaking the law. Laws that you seem incapable of enforcing in any meaningful way.

Kind regards
John Rahilly

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: Labour Party Election Promise & Springborg"s bipartisan support.
Date: Friday, 16 October 2015 12:47:28 PM
Attachments: [CCE14102015_00000.pdf](#)

Dear Sir,

Attached Springborg's bipartisan support letter. Copy of an email sent to the Member for Kallangur outlining Governments election commitment. This was freely given to me, though I believe the Member has copped a little flack since.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

From:

[John Rahilly](#)

To:



Subject: QLD Transport Public Servants appear before committee researching Demerit Point Legislation for Uber Drivers.

Date: Friday, 16 October 2015 8:08:25 PM

Dear Premier,

Please view the attached youtube video and tell me that the responses of the public servants to the Parliamentary Committee was not an insult to every Taxi owner, leasee, operator and driver in this state. It brings to mind the adage "if you are not part of the solution you are part of the problem." Is it any wonder that the laws of the state cannot be upheld.

Premier, the Taxi industry has three issues :

1. The failure of your Government to honour the election commitment of demerit points for drivers providing an illegal taxi service.
2. The failure of the Transport Minister to enforce the laws of the state as highlighted by the evidence of the public servants to the Parliamentary Committee.
3. The failure of the Transport Minister to communicate in any meaningful way with the taxi industry since the election. No apparent recognition of the fact that the viability of operating a taxi is fast disappearing and there will be business failures and an inability to provide services if the demerit point legislation is not passed before Christmas.

It was heartening to see that not only has the industry received the support of the Katter Party but also the support of the Speaker of the House, Mr. Peter Wellington who addressed the recent protest at Parliament House not once but twice. There is obviously a growing awareness of the damage being done to our state and its people by the foreign corporation facilitating illegal taxi services.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-qCalWC4S4&feature=youtu.be>

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: FW: johnrahilly@bigpond.com has shared something with you
Date: Monday, 19 October 2015 7:48:28 AM

Dear Sir,

Story on cabbies defaulting on loans in US. This is to become very relevant to us in Queensland. For your information, the Bank of Queensland (which just happens to be my bank) has already declared that taxi licences have a nil security value for loan purposes. How this will play out for existing loans is a wait and see game. Please regard this communication as an add on to my previous submissions to the Committee.

Kind Regards,
John Rahilly.

<http://commonwealthmagazine.org/economy/cabbies-defaulting-on-loans/#.ViQJi3-qnPg.email>

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Shane King

Subject: FW: Election commitment

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 17 June 2015 9:42 AM

To: Shane King

Subject: Election commitment

'Seek to work with all participants in the taxi industry to ensure that laws are upheld, competition is fair, and the needs of customers are put first. Where laws are being deliberately flouted, appropriate enforcement and penalties are necessary. If this means that demerit points need to be imposed then that is something we would pursue'

Lawrence Springborg MP
Leader of the Opposition



Mineral House
Level 7,
41 George Street
PO Box 15057
City East QLD 4002

03 JUN 2015

Mr John Rahilly
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Rahilly


Thank you again for copying me into the correspondence directed to the Premier.

I appreciate you keeping our office informed of these issues and I understand and share your concerns.

I would again like to reiterate our bipartisan support for any measures which will ensure there is more stringent compliance with current regulations.

I gave you a commitment that we are happy to do what we can to ensure there is a level playing field for taxi operators, and that commitment remains.

Yours sincerely


LAWRENCE SPRINGBORG MP
Leader of the Opposition