

Dear Reader
My concerns
Taxi Industry and illegal (so called) taxi services

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FREE FOR ALL

No need for a Casino licence regulations
No need for a Gaming licence regulations
No need for a fishing licence regulations
No need for a liquor licence regulations
No need for lottery regulations
No need for building regulations or building codes
No need for parking regulations
No need for pontoon building regulations in the river
No need for height regulations on buildings
No need for the registration of tax agents
No need for carpenters, electricians, plumbers to be regulated
No need for the registration of Real Estate agents
No need for child care regulations
No need for canvassing regulations
No need for restaurant food regulations
No need for a caravan park permit
No need for workplace and health regulations
No need for speed limits, drive wherever you like, bush, beach anywhere.

How quickly would a business be closed down if they would not comply with council, state or federal laws and regulations?

How quickly would it erode the revenue stream of government bodies?

How many businesses would have to close their doors if they get unfair competition from unlicensed non complying, non Australian, non taxpaying competition?

How many injuries sweat shops underpaying employers would we have to deal with?

How many would not pay work cover, payroll tax, superannuation, holiday pay

Why are rules, licensing and regulations put in place.

To avoid chaos, to promote order, to provide guidelines, to provide security and protection for business and the public

To create a revenue stream for government

Protection vs regulation

The taxi industry and other industries are not protected.

They are heavily regulated but are open for competition for anyone to enter if complying with the law and regulations

Just go ahead and do it, apologize later and demand to change the laws to suit just does not cut it.

I have been involved in the taxi industry since 1983. The taxi industry did a marvellous job during the commonwealth games, Expo 88 and many other recent large events.

I am proud to be in the taxi industry and taxis are out there to provide a service to the public.

The public is not always courteous and behave at times rude and obnoxious but despite that taxi drivers are always out there to provide a service.

It cost more to run a taxi than just fuel.

It is only a matter of time before the non legitimate taxi service persons realise that the maintenance on their car will increase dramatically, new tyres, services and that it is not all profit.

There is a good reason that the depreciation rate on taxis is 50% per year

The app provider can just churn them out and get new unwary participants.

The same happened with Pizza Delivery drivers.

In the taxi industry I am not against fair competition. I do not fear competition as the best service provider in the end will win.

I encourage competition as it encourages innovation.

What I do not agree with is unfair competition. One set of strict rules for a well established business model regulated by the government and a free for all approach on the other hand.

If the illegal Uber model festers on for too long in the end it will become a fait accompli.

The politicians **throw their arms in the air** and say sorry nothing we can do about it anymore.

In the meantime the livelihood and retirement of many good hard working law abiding people will have been disrupted or destroyed.

Please be aware that this year or next year a number of taxi owners will reach the pension age.

With the value of a taxi licence (for which they have worked very hard for many years) and the asset test they will not be entitled to an age pension.

Without the value of their hard earned taxi licence they might be entitled to a full age pension, health card and numerous discounts from local and state services.

Profits will go overseas and us as **taxpayers will foot the bill of additional \$32,000** (plus extras) in age pensions per couple per year. Don't forget any potential Capital Gains Tax on resale.

Does deregulation or abandoning the taxi industry makes sense? No.

Keep the taxi industry regulated for peace of mind for owners and the public

Keep the drivers and service standards regulated

Allow the entry of competition on equal terms

Preserve the value of taxi licences. The Qld govt has made a mint by selling them (and each transfer generates a generous amount of stamp duty (approx \$15,000)).

Allowing unfair competition in the taxi industry **will set a precedent for many other industries not to comply with the rules and regulations.** It will cause chaos, unlicensed service providers in a variety of industries and in the end the general public will be the losers.

John Bergmans

