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Submission No. 194  
11.1.10

17 October 2015

Infrastructure Planning & Natural Resources  
Committee  
Parliament House  
BRISBANE. QLD. 4000

Dear Sirs,

RE: BILL TO INCREASE PENALTIES, TRANSPORT OPERATIONS ACT 1994

Dear Committee Members,

As a long-term Queensland Taxi Licence Holder, we write to you to support the proposed Bill in relation to illegal taxi services.

We have been in the industry since 1989 with the intent to remain in the industry. As a Licence Holder, we have always felt that we were in a safe secure regulated industry with laws and rules. We were in the belief, obviously mistakenly, that our investment in our taxi licence is our superannuation and it would therefore not be necessary for us to rely on social security in our later years. However, in light of the advent of "UBER" entering Queensland and side-stepping regulations, these future plans and our financial wellbeing are now uncertain.

We believe it is unfair and unethical that because we have followed Queensland Laws and rules, as a Taxi Licence holder, we should be punished by a foreign corporate bully who flouts rules and laws put in place to protect the public. The current government attempts at controlling the situation appear to be fruitless. We therefore feel the Bill advocating the issue of demerit points is essential for the empowerment of the government against illegal taxi operations and for the protection of both the industry and the public.

Please, we urge the committee to implement the bill without delay.

Yours faithfully,

Des and Wendy Smith