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Subject: Submission in support of the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015 (The Bill)/150916

I came to Australia in January 1996. After I was given the great honor to call Australia my home and the home of my families for generations in 1999, I pledge to this great country of ours and to the generous people of Australia that I will do everything I can to remain a very hard working citizen as a tax payer to the last day of my life.

To fulfill that promise, I continued working as a technician for the same company from May 1996 till 31 August 2014 here in Brisbane. In 31st August 2014 due to my age I officially retired from the work I love. As stated earlier to remain as tax payer I had to find something that will keep me working and contribute something very important to the community. My choice was to invest all the savings my wife and I had, including my superannuation to buy a Taxi license.

Before I bought the \$540,000.00 price taxi license I made some researches about UberX and ask Queensland Transport and Main Roads whether it is legal, and the answer that was given to me then was illegal. Then I went to the taxi booking companies and ask their views about UberX and they too told me that they are illegal and the government is going to stop them. Based on that information I went ahead to buy the license and bought it at the price mentioned above.

Uber illegal taxi services one year on, they are still everywhere stealing our jobs and destroying our businesses in front of our government's watch full eye. I could not believe for a moment why the government that we elected to uphold our laws and regulations and govern us with no distinction, has chosen to compromise our rights and the integrity of our laws in favor of cross boarder multinationals who are there only to serve their greedy interests by forcing our citizen to do their dirty works and create animosity among ourselves. An elected government should and must not allow anyone to take the law in to their own hands. I believe the law is above all of us. Anyone who wants to operate any business must heed the Law of the land and its provisions.

Here below is a table where our government wants us to compute with the illegal Uber taxi drivers.

Description	Heavily regulated Taxis	Uber Taxis private cars
New car and number of years allowed to run	maximum 6 years	Any car for 10 years
Registration with liability	over \$6000.00	+- \$ 1000.00 and no Liabilities
Insurance	more than \$7000.00	depends on type of car +- \$1000.00
Security levy	yes at a cost of over \$340.00 per year	Nil
Health checks	Must have	Nil
Character Police checks	Must	Nil
Vehicle inspection /by transport dep.	Twice a year at a price +- \$100.00 per six month	Nil
Authorization to drive passenger transport	Must have	Nil
Training to drive passenger transport	Must	Nil
Drink Driving	Zero	no obligation
Taxi fares	Strictly Regulated	Nil
Uniforms	Must	Nil
Security Cameras	Must	Nil
Fares payment	Paid after job done	Overseas before job done
Public benefit in terms of economy	yes everything is local	Money transferred by credit cards to overseas
Who owns the business	Hard working Australians citizens	Multi National Corporate companies
Authorization Display Card	Must be displayed	Nil
To convert new car in to Taxi services	Between \$50,000.00 to +- \$80,000.00	Just private car

From this table one can see how unfair and irresponsible it is to show a blind eye to Uber drivers while they are breaking the Law (ACT1994 including all amendments).

It is also very sad to see where very big multinational companies can intimidate regulators and governments by creating a very sharp and high profile legal teams that will sand bag any threat of legal enforcement. The government should and must not see this to happen.

For me my small business is my life and death. I do not want to see my dream and my integrity as a citizen of this great country of ours and our law compromised by multinationals. Our leaders and authorities must say enough is enough to all local and multinationals who are not willing to operate according to our laws. A full force of the law of the land must be applied against anyone who breaks our law. We cannot let Australia go down the path of a third country style of government where money can do everything.

Our elected representatives have a duty and responsibility to uphold our laws no matter what and protect our safety and wellbeing.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons I totally support the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015 (The Bill)/150916 that has been referred to the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee (IPNRC) by (KAP). More over I would like the following points to be considered in conjunction with this bill to curtail illegal passenger transport.

Revoke any car found illegally transporting passengers by Uber driver:

1. First offence for six months,
2. Second offence one year,
3. Third offence must revoke until same playfield is established for all taxi service providers

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