



19th October, 2015.

Research Director,
Infrastructure, Planning and
Natural Resources Committee,
Parliament House,
George Street,
Brisbane. QLD. 4000

Dear Sir,

Submission Regarding the Taxi Industry.

This submission is made in relation to the current circumstances existing in the Taxi Industry in Queensland (and, in particular, in Brisbane) and as reflected in the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill introduced into State Parliament by the Katter Australia Party.

Having legally invested in a legalised and appropriately regulated Taxi Industry over many years to provide for my retirement, I now find that all such effort is placed in jeopardy by an overseas group entering the market with nil or scant regard for established regulations etc. and operating illegally without what appears to be any effective Government regulatory control.

A reasonable person could be excused from taking the view that in the current circumstances regulation of the industry is beyond the Government's capability – a sad day indeed for Queenslanders and Queensland businesses.

May I stress that I am not averse to competition (competition already exists between the various legalised Taxi Operators) but it does seem at this point in time that Government has completely failed to address concepts relating to a "level playing field".

I submit that there are four options available to Government at this time:


1. Leave matters as they currently stand giving the illegal operators carte blanche to wreak havoc on the Taxi industry and the Queenslanders that rely on it for a reasonable (and I stress reasonable) income.
2. Use the existing or implement appropriate Legislation to completely eliminate the illegal operators and practices.
3. Introduce new compliance regulations enforceable on those currently operating illegally together with appropriate changes to the current Taxi regulations and create the desired "level playing field".

4. Introduce compensatory processes for all those who have been discriminated against and suffered because of the actions of the illegal operators.

It is difficult to envisage how these matters will unfold but it does seem a reasonable view that unless option 4 above forms part of the overall resolution the Government may very well have to deal with some form of class action by disaffected parties who currently are being grossly discriminated against and who at all times have operated within the legal and regulatory requirements of the Queensland Taxi Industry.

Please advise when this submission is received and accepted.

Yours faithfully,


G. J. Carsley.