From:

Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee

Subject: Re: Taxi Legislation

**Date:** Monday, 19 October 2015 2:48:02 PM

## **Submission**

Attention. Research Director Infrastructure Planning and Nathan. Resource Committee.

----- Original message -----

From:

Subject: Taxi Legislation

Dear Sir,

We are fully self funded retirees funded by income from our Queensland Taxi Licences. We are very concerned that our State Government is allowing an illegal taxi service (under the guise of 'ride share') operate in our State.

In the past when the Government

issued and sold LICENCES

BY TENDER the State Government clearly indicated that the ability to operate and own a taxi licence would be restricted to properly licenced persons. With this knowledge we made a Business decision to purchase our Licence. This, we calculated, would allow us a viable income and enable us to become fully self funded retirees in our later years. We did take into account that the State Government could and probably would issue more licences but they would be issued under the same and or comparable/similar Laws and Regulations. Therefore it is beyond compression that our State Government would now allow the operation of a taxi service ('illegal ride share') to operate without any respect or compliance for the State and its Laws.

ALL Businesses in our State ARE REQUIRED TO PAY FEES FOR Licences, Stamp Duty, Accreditation, Security etc All Businesses would love to operate without any fees and restraints. Our State of Queensland is a better place to live, work and holiday because of because of Laws and regulations put into place by current and past State Governments. Businesses by LAW are required to Register for ABN, GST, and Income Tax to operate a Legal Business.

Before purchasing our Licence we also took into account that the world is a changing, progressive place, and that TECHNOLOGY would in the future take a great part in improving our Taxi services. The Taxi Industry in Queensland has kept up with technology in many ways by keeping abreast of the requirement of the State Government, and the general public. Taxis can be booked by landline, mobile phone,text, email, permanent booking, and mobile App. Taxi customers also have several choices of paying their fare and they also know cost of fare before paying. SECURITY AND SAFETY are

high priority for all Businesses and consumers. The taxi industry currently has Accreditation,ID Photos, Numbered easily identifiable taxis, Braille numbers, Security Cameras and a Satellite coverage of all taxis at all times

SPECIAL NEEDS CONSUMERS the elderly. disability persons, school children, and visually impaired. All these services allow for Anti Discrimination Laws EMPLOYMENT is an important issue for our State. The taxi industry currently employs many people in various jobs, drivers, training new employees, junior and senior office staff, mechanics, technicians, maintenance, call centre booking staff, plus the infrastructure and staff that oversee all these areas. This law abiding Business Model certainly means more employment opportunities available than an illegal service that operates with a driver, one app, his or her private car running out of private home. Our family loves living in Queensland and our State is a great place to live and bring up families because previous and current State Governments have worked hard to set Laws and Regulations that have been upheld and respected by Queenslanders, Interstate and Overseas Companies who operate in our State. There is no necessity for our current Government to allow any newcomers to disregard and show open contempt to our Laws and Regulations.

Sincerely, Trevor & Carole Nixon.