

From: [Manjit Boparai](#)
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: Legal taxi service versus illegal uber taxi service
Date: Monday, 19 October 2015 7:52:58 PM

Honourable Chairman Mr. Jim Pearce and all Honourable Members of Parliament of Queensland,

Here are few facts regarding established Taxi service compared with Uber's illegal taxi service

1. Illegal taxi service frustrate not only us in Queensland, but across the world in 80 major cities. More frustration comes from our own politicians who are supposed to implement their own laws. Sometimes frustrated approved taxi drivers are aggressive to attack on illegal taxi service across the world. This frustration is directly linked with unapproved illegal service. The frustration of taxi drivers and operators are very genuine, as people who have invested their resources and follow the rules & regulations of Queensland Transport department. When the transport department cannot implement their own laws, who else will???
2. It is not the ruling politicians who lose any penny, it is the taxi drivers and operators who lose income in their daily shifts (it is estimated from operators that one taxi in Brisbane is losing \$400-\$500 a week), prices of the taxi licenses came not only sharply down, but it has gone to extremely serious chaos that it is not even selling at all. About 3261 Licenses owners life retirement savings investments did not only shrink but are disappearing all together in the hands of our political master's one and half year uncertainty. Every year after 25-30 years, 20-30 taxi owners retire, since they are caught up in a very poor situation, they can't sell their licenses altogether. This is an extremely serious financial crisis for those who dared

to work 12 hours/6 days shift in good faith from the government. It is not funny that people who follow laws of the land, they are losers, the multi-national corporate who is illegal, they are the made winners in our own country, by our own politicians!!!

3. As Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk said on radio one day, Illegal Uber taxi service is popular, it is because it is cheaper. Premier, Illegal uber taxi service is only cheaper, because it has no approval from local transport departments, do not pay business registrations which is very high about \$7600 yearly, no expensive security cameras inside the taxi vehicles approved by transport department for the customers safety, no business insurance for customer safety coverage cost \$6700, no signage of taxi service outside of the vehicle and no uniform avoiding police to check for zero alcohol level requirement for professional drivers, no compliance of six monthly vehicle safety inspections by transport department. These all compliances cost huge money which illegal Uber is trying to avoid, that's why it is comparatively cheap than legal taxi service. Illegal Uber means simply lowering our standards which are achieved with 95 years hard and thoughtful planning for high standard taxi service for safety of customers. The mobile phone based illegal uber taxi service is illegal to use mobile phone while driving. More over only mobile phone based taxi service without any signs on the vehicle can use every day different vehicles on discretion. One thing is very clear that illegal Uber taxi is very best at ignoring the laws across the world. So in this way there is no level playing field for legal taxi service and illegal taxi service.

4. The claim of new jobs creation by illegal Uber taxi is

totally a myth for illusion in media and easily persuadable minds madly preached by illegal taxi service in defence. In this tight economic environment, taxi service is already passing through lower demand since the last couple of years. Taxis are waiting on every taxi rank for longer than few years ago. Illegal taxi service is only taking our jobs away which our taxi drivers are kept waiting to do. Keeping in mind supply and demand in this low mining boom and risky economic environment at least 150-200 taxis are felt over supplied in Brisbane.

5. While analysing taxi service to the communities, very important point to note is that Illegal taxi service is only cherry picking in high density areas of bigger cities. It does not cover the whole taxi service areas, but only available in high density areas in peak times of the day and weak. Illegal taxi service is not a serious competitor either, it has been proven that its fluctuating prices are based on supply and demand, sometimes higher than transport department's recommendations. Legal taxi services are in all taxi service areas 24/7 days available including to special care customers like wheel chair customers with legally recommended price charges.

6. Taxi industry is local service industry driven and invested by local people, who are accountable to local a community and authorities. While served and driven by locals, why the profits should go to overseas multi-corporates. If there are any new innovations are to be implanted to make it compatible, just give first chance to our own taxi industry stake holders to improve and implement. That's what expected from local creative politicians. Please think about it and a have hard look sensibly.

7. The second last, what very important to read the most

DODGY name in itself that “ ride sharing taxi “ , sharing means two or more people are sharing the total expenses of the vehicle used for their transportation. The customer order the taxi to be transported from A to B. The driver goes to pick up the customer, in the end of service, the customer pays the service fees to the driver. So where is the Ride Sharing, tomorrow I can start HELPING HAND transport service, in end of the day it is called taxi service in the NATURE OF SERVICE. So funny and irrational to dupe people only with dodgy name.

8. The outcry from legal taxi drivers is to stop the illegal taxi service until uber get approval from authority, just implement the laws of the land, only fines to drivers at fault are not working Deputy Premier Jacky Trad has admitted this, Minister should go more harder now like unregister the vehicle for three months and give demerit points the driver doing illegal activity, if same vehicle and driver caught again make the charges double.

Regards sincerely

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Mobile: [REDACTED]

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Brisbane Taxi operator (19 years' experience)

18/10/2015
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Sent from my iPhone