17 October 2015

Research Director Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee Parliament House BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: TRANSPORT LEGISLATION (TAXI SERVICES) AMENDMENT BILL 2015

I support the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015 ("the Bill").

You would be aware that private US-based technology company Uber emailed their database in Queensland prior to the recent state election requesting they pressure candidates to allow them to legally operate their 'illegal ride sharing' service in Queensland.

I do not believe any business in Queensland (or Australia) should operate on the basis that they can operate brazenly above the law without consequence. As a taxi industry member, I would ask that you disregard any correspondence generated by Uber's lobbying campaigning and instead act to enforce the current legislation in the *Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act 1994* ("the Act") and accept the *Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015* ("the Bill"). Uber operates their illegal ride sharing service UberX in clear breach of the Act, and the widespread availability and use of this service indicates this legislation is not currently being entirely enforced. Despite being issued with a cease and desist order, Uber is continuing to recruit new drivers and expand its operations.

Illegal taxi services operate in defiance of the law. By failing to enforce these laws, the Rule of Law in Queensland is being undermined and others are being encouraged to do as they please. Now is the time to make it clear that the only way into a market is through the front door – not the back door. This industry is important to our economy, to our travelling public and to the livelihoods of thousands of honest, hardworking law abiding Queenslanders who care about delivering value to consumers in a way that is safe, sustainable, innovative and efficient.

I am and my family will suffer directly if this Government does not take decisive action. It is already putting undue pressure on us. I urge you to send a strong message that you will not tolerate Ubers illegal activity and adopt the *Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015* ("the Bill").

Thank you for giving this matter your consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or by email

Yours sincerely,

Giuliano Di Napoli

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