Submission To The Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015

I would like to strongly support the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015 introduced into Queensland Parliament by Katter's Australian Party.

Firstly I'm extremely surprised that in such a model democratic country like Australia, a foreign Giant company is allowed to undermine the government and hijack an industry competing openly and illegally in a big way with no regard whatsoever for the law of the land. Uber has totally demonstrated this by not only continuing to operate but also by increasing its illegal business through advertising with Australian media after being informed it was operating illegally.

I'm 51 years of age and have always worked more than a fulltime job since I was 18. I am a law abiding and a god fearing citizen of Australia. I do not have any superannuation savings. I bought my current Taxi Service Licence (TSL) in 2012 and am working very hard to pay off my TSL and house mortgage hoping to lease out my TSL to pay for my retirement. I'm very worried about the recent down trend in business due to illegal taxis operating quite freely. If the down trend continues I will lose both my TSL and my family home and could be made bankrupt. I'm sure there are many more taxi operators in this similar situation like myself.

Queensland Taxi Industry has a very transparent, regulated and very successful structure in place in which operators, drivers and vehicles are checked regularly and every second of vehicles movement is monitored by a sophisticated MT Data dispatch system.

The current system gives the government income from sale of new licence from tender process, stamp duty, income tax & gst, registration, licence & driver authority renewals are some that I can think of.

Anyone or company wanting to operate a taxi business in Queensland should simply have to follow the regulations and steps the government has in place for that purpose rather than flexing its wealth muscle to undermine the government and the law.

Yours sincerely,

Praveen Shandil

From:

To: <u>Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee</u>

Subject: Submission To The Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015

Date: Tuesday, 20 October 2015 1:17:43 PM
Attachments: Submission To The Transport Legislation.docx