From:
on behalf of <u>Jean Lightbody</u>
To:
Infrastructure, <u>Planning and Natural Resources Committee</u>
Subject: Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015

**Date:** Tuesday, 13 October 2015 4:19:14 PM

It seems that the reason Taxi Drivers are at a disadvantage to Uber drivers is that they have to pay a lot of money for licences to operate. Rather than legislating against an innovative service like Uber, I would prefer to see less regulation, requiring only licences that ensure safety checks for operators and their vehicles and allow the free market to let anyone enter or leave the industry. This would reward good service and low price. Interim steps may need to be put in place to protect individuals who have invested in taxi licences from losing large sums. However keeping the the current system is only asking consumers to prop up a business model that is outmoded and non-competitive.

PS I have no affiliation with anyone in Uber or regular taxi drivers. I haven't yet used Uber but friends who have say they are more reliable and friendly and often less expensive.

Jean Lightbody