

From: [Caroline Tsoukalas](#)
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: The Bill - Submission to increase penalties to deter illegal taxi operators
Date: Wednesday, 21 October 2015 9:58:13 AM

Research Director
Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resource Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Chair,

I have worked in the Taxi Industry for the last 6 years and am very passionate about our drivers and what they have to go through to make a living. Our drivers have to sit an exam every year to qualify to drive a taxi, to be police checked and regulated.

The taxi industry provides a safe environment for the passengers who travel, including CTP coverage, Camera footage and the fact that their Operators offer Insurance in the event an accident might happen, knowing the \$5.00 levy they pay for every shift they do, will cover any accident that might occur. These are just a few things that make Taxis much safer than illegal ride sharing app's like Uber. Not only is Uber illegal, as a passenger, it is like hitchhiking,. Something with a family of three beautiful little girls bread into it, would never promote and would never use, purely for their own safety.

I believe that, due to Uber not being legalised, and our drivers working so hard every day to make their living, that if illegal ride sharers get caught, they should have loss of demerit points deducted from them due to this. These illegal drivers are stealing work from the hard working taxi drivers that constantly do the right thing by the regulation. It only seems fair.

Regards

Caroline Tsoukalas

