

Lorenzo Di Felice [REDACTED]

TRANSPORT AMENDMENT BILL

21 October 2015 6:15:35 AM AEST

ipnrc@parliament.qld.gov.au

To Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee,

Two years ago, my husband and I decided to purchase a taxi licence. We had faith in Queensland's taxi regulations and standards as it would apply to all.

However, since the introduction of Uber and their illegal operations, we have become gravely concerned for our future. Uber is a wealthy illegal operator who flaunt and advertise their activities and own a war chest big enough to absorb fines as a cost of business. All the while, we abide the law and operate a business against unfair competition. We receive letters from the Department of Transport advising us that if we don't comply and pay a Security Levy we won't be able to operate. And so we comply.

We now see our dream of a self funded retirement slipping away as our business investment is devaluing every day. We borrowed \$525,000.00 plus stamp duty of \$16,000.00 and we mortgaged our home. I have always been a law abiding citizen but if a rich American company can come into Australia and disregard our laws, then operate, then dictate and expect our government to accomodate them, then I won't be taking any more chances of trying to support my own retirement. I will be joining the ranks of aged pensioners lining up to claim the pension and health rebates provided by our government.

I understand digital technology and has changed the world we live in, and if it is to be than we can work alongside any competition as long as there is a level playing field, not the current system where we are held ransom by the government with regulations on fares, security measures, insurances and licences whilst others don't follow any of these rules. Either ban them from our state like in other countries, or change the rules to make it fair competition for both parties, or compensate your law abiding citizens who have played by the rules and paid large sums of money to hold these licences and regulations that come with it.

I know that I am only one person in the whole scheme of things, but we are suffering. We can't wait a year before a decision is made when it is a simple case in my eyes. If you are breaking the law then you should be made to pay for it in the case of a fine and demerit points, and of course by paying tax on all money earned as we do. Ultimately, we should all be equal before the law.

Thank you for taking the time to read this submission. Please feel free to contact me regarding this matter at any time.

Tracy Di Felice

Tracy Di Felice

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]