

To: The Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee

As the KAP proposed Transport Amendment bill, I and other taxi license holders am pleading for protection and justice against the emerging illegal taxis. I entirely support and want this to be passed through parliament in regards to the implementation of demerit points for drivers who illegally operate outside the legal system. I own a number of taxi licenses from Brisbane to the Gold Coast, purchased solely for the purpose of investing in Queensland's future because I believed in the system and the state of Queensland. While this Bill will not be a solution to the problem of illegal taxis, it will give illegal taxi drivers a serious consequence to consider when they decide to break the law and drive illegally.

My latest license was purchased on the Gold Coast in June 2014 for the amount Pof \$635,000 plus approximately \$20,000 in stamp duty. The Stamp duty's office and the government were quite happy to take my money with no disclosure of any changes in the systems in place at all.P

I believe there should be compensation back to the taxi license holders as Uber has been operating illegally in Australia for the last number of years.

We all have to oblige by the law, for example as to ASIC for companies, ACCC for any fraudulent activities for corporations, therefore why is this different? A person caught drink driving more than three times ends up in prison. A drug trafficker caught a number of times, ends up in prison. So therefore, I ask you, Ptheir activity different? The identified company, Uber, has attempted to take on the ATO, as well as every state within Australia. We all know that orders have been issued for them to stop what they are doing, however they continue to run above the law.

It is only a matter of time before a major incident/fatality occurs, where the person driving that car is at fault; and the government is fully aware at this and hence should be prosecuted as well, as accessories to the crimes. This needs to be actioned and stopped immediately as laws are created to be obeyed for the safety of our people, not to be bended, putting our people in jeopardy.

I urge the Queensland Government to uphold the laws that they have imposed on the taxi industry - approve this Bill.

The Gsak Trust Steve Koulouris



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Steve Koulouris', written over a horizontal line.

Thank You