

To Whom It May Concern

Please accept this as my submission in support of the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015.

I have been a taxi driver since 1993. Although I was a fully employed and experienced cameraman in my country of origin, China, I was unable to work in my trained profession when I immigrated to Australia. I originally began working as a weekend driver to supplement my income and when I could no longer find work I became a full time taxi driver.

The taxi industry has allowed me to support myself, my wife who has a disability due to a work injury.

Since illegal taxis emerged in the Queensland taxi industry, our opportunity to find work has been reduced immeasurably. I am now taking an income, which is more than 40% lower than the standards of one year ago.

The Queensland taxi industry has a taxi number that is regulated by the Queensland Government that is directly related to the population size. We are now flooded with increasing numbers of illegal taxis making this line of work not viable.

I am now 61 years of age. Finding employment will be an insurmountable challenge. The employment market does not really exist for anyone over 50 years of age. It would be a great burden upon me to have to join the unemployed and require the Government to help support our family to live our basic life.

I urge the Queensland Government to support this Bill. While this Amendment will not solve the illegal taxi problem, this Bill will assist in helping catch illegal taxi drivers. While the Queensland Government reviews the industry and finds a solution, those of us abiding by the many laws, regulations and training requirements deserve a fair go.

Our livelihoods and our employment are relying on your decision to uphold the rules and regulations set by the Queensland Government.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Wu

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