

Research Director Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

21 October 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: TRANSPORT LEGISLATION (TAXI SERVICES) AMENDMENT BILL 2015

I support the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015.

Gangma Pty Ltd is a family owned and operated Taxi base in Kelvin Grove with a fleet of 75 taxis affiliated with Black & White Cabs. We have been in operation since 1963 and have a thorough understanding of the Taxi industry in the Brisbane metropolitan area. This business has given an opportunity to our whole family and spans two generations and multiple family members who solely rely on our operation. It is also critical for our 230 taxi drivers. Our plan is to continue and grow our business into the future. This will not be possible if the current conditions regarding illegal ride sharing operators like Uber are allowed to continue to operate. It is having a catastrophic effect on our business and is causing undue pressure on our family and drivers.

I do not believe any business in Queensland should operate on the basis that they can operate brazenly above the law without consequence. Illegal taxi services operate in defiance of the law. By failing to enforce these laws, the Rule of Law in Queensland is being undermined and others are being encouraged to do as they please.

Now is the time to make it clear that the only way into a market is through the front door – not the back door. The introduction of the Bill will be a significant step as current rules where drivers are simply fined and Uber, a billion dollar multinational, simply picks up the tab negating the deterrent.

This industry is important to our economy, to our travelling public and to the livelihoods of thousands of honest, hardworking law abiding Queenslanders who care about delivering a service that is safe, sustainable, innovative and efficient.

Thank you for this opportunity. I sincerely hope the Committee and ultimately the Queensland Parliament passes the Bill.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07 3356 5422 or by email gerryd@kgtm.com.au.

Yours sincerely

Gerry Di Lucchio General Manager