<u>Submission to The Infrastructure, Planning</u> and Natural Resources Committee

<u>re: The Inquiry into the Transport</u> Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment 2015

Dear Committee Members

I would like to add my voice to that of the Honourable Member for Mount Isa, Mr Katter, in drawing to the House's attention the issue of the continued operation of overseas-managed illegal taxi services in Queensland and how this undermines not only taxis, but all existing State regulations.

Illegal taxi services are circumventing the Queensland taxi industry at a rapid rate to the detriment of our society, the personal safety of users, and the provision of compensation in the event of an accident.

It is evident that existing penalties are not sufficient to stop the increase in illegal taxi services in Queensland.

It is worth recalling that although the taxi industry provides some \$90 million in GST revenue to the Commonwealth, Taxi licences are becoming significantly devalued. This will put quite a few licence holders on welfare, since the licence is the superannuation option for many owners.

In conclusion, I hope that the Honourable Member's motion is successful.

Sincerely,

(signed) Robert Keith Woodmass

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