



**Research Director** 

21 October, 2015

I wish to convey my concerns as a taxi owner, operator and driver of a licensed Brisbane metropolitan taxi service, in regard to the American-based Uber x taxi service operating in our licensed area.

I am not asking for any favours nor special consideration. I only ask that your Government, along with the Transport and Police Departments, enforce Queensland transport and traffic laws. I, and fellow taxi owners and drivers, are required to abide by these laws. These laws should also be applied evenly to the Uber x drivers and vehicles who are driving fare-paying passengers around Brisbane in private vehicles, using private driver's licences.

Unlike Uber, as a taxi driver, I am required by law to have

- A current Driver authority,
- A current ID card displayed at all times,
- Regular health checks and a standing Medical certificate,
- · Zero percent alcohol reading when driving,

and collect and remit GST and pay tax to the Government.

Furthermore, licensed taxi vehicles are required to have

- A current machinery inspection certificate, issued six-monthly by the Department of Transport,
- Cameras fitted for the safety of both driver and passengers,
- Current operator accreditation, and
- A current taxi service license.

All of these strategies result in a strongly regulated industry that ensures passenger safety.

The Government gains significant revenue from issuing taxi service licenses plus stamp duty on any transfer of licenses that are sold. Capital gains tax is also paid to the Federal Government. Uber's enterprise is able to bypass all of these regulations, whilst not having to contribute financially in any way to our Governments.

I believe fines alone will not stop this operation. It is also necessary to

impose demerit points to drivers,

- impound these private vehicles,
- ban the Uber app via the Telcos, and
- close Uber's Brisbane office

in order to correct what is an unfair and unlawful operation.

I urge your Government to act on these concerns and enforce the law.

Yours sincerely

Shane Taylor Taxi Owner and Proprietor