From: rodney smith

To: <u>Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee</u>

Subject: Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015

Date: Wednesday, 21 October 2015 6:00:01 PM

## 21 October 2015

I am writing this letter in the hope that the review committee will fully support the KAP proposed Transport amendment bill. I am a license holder with my life savings invested in the taxi industry.

When Uber first launched illegally in Queensland I was very pleased to see the government placed a Cease and Desist order on Uber. Unfortunately not knowing how big overseas companies operate, I fail to understand how they disregarded the Queensland laws and continue to operate as they please. This included paying fines on behalf of their drivers which are working for Uber. Being a law abiding Queenslander I cannot understand how a foreign company can come into our State of Queensland and disregard all our laws and operate illegally with no respect for the laws and regulations which are imposed on the taxi industry by the Transport Department for the safeguard and operating model of the industry itself. Another important point to mentioned I am extremely disappointed with the Uber drivers as they have known for a very long time that they are working in an illegally industry but continue to drive knowing very well they are breaking the law.

Uber and their massive public relations campaign are trying to influence the government saying they are creating new job opportunities which I find strange when they say they have many part time employees. Basically the way I see it, they are taking the livelihood of permanent taxi drivers and the subsidiary companies related to the taxi industry. As we are all aware, there is only limited amount of people who use the taxi service. This so called PR they are supposedly creating new employment I find hard to comprehend, as basically they are taking jobs off hard working people who abide by the law an pay all their taxes which contribute to the State of Queensland.

I hope the commission can see that what the KAP party is requesting is not only fair and just but the best way to curb what is totally illegal practice of a company trying to dictate to our State Government how they want to operate, irrespective of the laws and regulations that are in place to safe guard our taxi industry.

Yours sincerely,

Rodney Smith