

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Amendment for Taxi Service bills  
**Date:** Wednesday, 21 October 2015 10:25:48 PM

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Good evening,

I wish to introduce myself, my name is Epa Sufia I drive for yellow cab and I would like to put my submission in regarding the new amendment for taxi services.

First of all i want to thank Honorable Bob Carter for introducing these very important amendments to the bill.

I wish to advise the house, that I definitely believe a lot of money is being loss by the ATO, the transport and the government because of the illegal activities by these illegal taxis. A lot of these drivers are people i know at church and it hurt me when they laughed and joked about the fines they get from transport and how they are still illegally providing taxi services regardless.

They humorously joke about the profits they make illegally and never pay any taxes, GST and annual licence fees. Also undergoing no vehicle inspections. So it was difficult for me to conceal my emotions. I keep asking myself the question "how is it possible in such a developed country that these illegal operations are still taking place". I am from a small island called Samoa and i expect these illegal operations in a underdeveloped country but not in Australia. A place of democracy and tight infrastructure.

If these illegal actions continue it will only allow for other industries to sub conscientiously participate in breaking the law. I believe it is incredibly important for the government to prohibit these activities and reinforce the law, furthermore practically showing these employees, they can not live outside of the law. In many successful countries like ours we have been able to uphold the law however this tiny peak hole may lead us into a major break out. Therefore, the government needs to take action and uphold the law using other strategies.

I also wish to advise the members that it is so difficult to make a living driving taxis i'm lucky even if i make \$10.00 an hour on a 12hour shift, after expenses anywhere between \$5.00 and \$8.00 after my cost. Sometimes I sit on the rank for nearly four hours for a \$10.00 job and remember I'm the one that pays the government the money not the illegal taxis.

I wish to thank you for considering by submission. I pray that our good God lead ,guide ,protect and bless the good leaders of our state.

God Bless  
Epa Sufia (Taxi Driver)