

From: [Brett Doran](#)
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: Uber Submission
Date: Thursday, 22 October 2015 10:33:28 AM

Dear Committee Members,

I write in regards to the Bill to propose the amendment to the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) in Queensland. First and foremost, I am in full support of this amendment, for a number of reasons reasons, which I will outline below.

If Uber is a taxi, it is breaking the law. The law states to operate a Taxi, you must adhere to the regulations in place. Uber is not doing this and touting they are a “ride-sharing” company, not a taxi, this is a mockery of our laws. This belief Uber is breaking the law is also clearly shared with the Queensland Government by way of monetary fines issued to Uber drivers to date. Now, this is where my central issue lies. Is our justice system based on punishment? Or is it designed to deter and correct? My belief is that any sound justice system follows the latter, to deter from committing the act, rather than punish for doing so. Clearly, with the number of fines issued, the current system is not deterring Uber – and why would it? The fines are a minuscule amount in comparison to the costs they would have if they were to meet the regulations of the taxi industry and purchase the appropriate licences. They will be able to continue to pay the fines and operate indefinitely, still turning a profit. If we agree that Uber is breaking the law, the only logical step is to increase the deterrent, which in this case, is stopping the drivers via demerit points – something Uber cannot take the hit on, and continue to operate with complete disregard for our laws.

Why is a multi-billion dollar multinational company above the law while small business taxi operators continue to operate within the law that does not protect them?

Regards,

Brett Doran