

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
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21st October 2015

To the Department of Transport and committee members,

I was literally born in the Taxi Industry as my father Frank Intelisano started up in the Industry well before my birth. I was raised in the business and even worked in it from the time I was a young child along with my 4 other siblings, as it was indeed a family owned and run business.

There has not been a month of my life where I have not been in this Industry and continue to be in it today along with the addition of my husband Nick who has driven taxis for a living for the past 3 years.

As someone who has experienced all aspects of this business we (along with EVERYONE else in the same boat as ourselves) would all like to know HOW IS IT POSSIBLE then that an ILLEGAL OVERSEAS based company can be permitted for one moment to operate here in Australia – cheating and STEALING money away from those who have followed the rules and done things legally at great personal cost and sacrifice. With all the costs we have to pay out of our pockets to do things the legal way and by the book there is less and less left over at the end of the day to feed our families and enable us to meet even the basic costs of living.

Is it too much to ask that after all these years of my family and numerous colleagues such as ourselves having always bent to the will of the law, legislation and regulations put in place in our Industry that now OUR interests be protected with as much vigour as the penalties that we were to face had we not adhered to those laws??? Is it too much to ask that OUR interests be protected vigorously rather than just turning a blind eye?? How can this be justified?? IT IS UNACCEPTABLE.

There are far too many costs put upon us INCLUDING GST which have always been met without question by us for us to be abandoned in this time of desperate need. An increase in fines and demerit points MUST be enforced on any illegal taxi service activity and operators, this is a positive start in protecting the rights of those legal taxi operators that have always upheld the law.

We are after all only asking for the same laws and rules to apply to ALL. There should be no question of swift and severe penalty for those who insist on brazenly flying under the radar and breaking those laws.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Nick and Nancy Bragagnolo.