From: Narelle Holley

Subject: Personal Submission For the Queensland Taxi Industry

Date: Thursday, 22 October 2015 12:00:00 PM

My name is Narelle Holley, I am a 38 year old Librarian who works for Logan City Council. I am also a mother of two small children aged 6 and 3. On top of that, I am a small business owner in partnership with my husband and father. We own and operate 51 taxis out of Slacks Creek.

I am also in full support of the Katter Bill. My husband, father and myself, as you can understand, stand to lose a lot if Uber are allowed to continue their illegal operations.

We are a young family and my father is a self funded retiree. None of us are a burden on the economy, far from it, we all have and still do pay our taxes (in the higher bracket no less) and contribute to society. If left to their own devices, uber stand to put all three of us out of business by the time the Independent review is over in August. We not only stand to lose all of our taxis, we stand to lose our mechanic shop and panel shop. Other operators may be too proud to say but some may be out of business after the quiet period in January. As you can imagine, this is placing a great deal of stress on all three of us and on a personal note is impacting my health greatly.

Uber is unregulated, illegal, non tax paying - they are ILLEGAL TAXIS. They are unsafe for people who travel in them as they are underinsured. Uber flout the laws where's taxis are regulated to the maximum level. It is unfair competition, and I don't believe it to be disruptive technology, they are not bringing anything new to the table. I believe them to be disruptive economics, something Queensland cannot afford to ignore. Taxis pay many fees to be regulated to maintain the safe standard they are currently at. As a taxi operator we are bound by rules and regulations, heavily charged and heavily taxed. Uber should be the same. We do not need to allow uber to dictate the rules, we should be dictating to them.

Taxis in Queensland have always had a high level of satisfaction from passengers, a 90% satisfaction rating. They do over 100 million trips a year, so 90% satisfaction from 100 million trips is not a standard many other industries can boast. Our successful AUSTRALIAN Taxi Industry is being hung out to dry and is unsupported to allow uber, a foreign owned, illegal, non tax compliant company to kill the industry and put many people out of business (over 15000 small businesses) and leave thousands and thousands of cab drivers unemployed (we alone have 100-150 cab drivers) that will be left without a job. Can the Queensland economy survive the mass influx of unemployment and the gap the taxi industry leaves in the financial purse of the State.

I refer to an article written by the Honorable Premier herself titled "The Government Knows We Need Taxis". The Premier states that "the government looks forward to working with you in the future to ensure customers continue to have access to safe and legal taxis across the state". Taxis have a place in Queensland and its economy, and Queenslanders are entitled to a safe and legal taxi service, acknowledged even by our own Premier. We need help not inaction. We are all suffering now and won't be able to sustain this much longer.

So I again reiterate that I support the Katter Party Bill as they are supporting the Queensland Taxi Industry - they are supporting the workers and small business owners not a global conglomerate.

Yours sincerely,

Narelle Holley