

To: Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee

I make a submission for consideration please to support the Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015.

Quite simply of course we are all aware of the blatant disregard of our existing Taxi Industry infrastructure and regulation that is taking place across the country by everyday people creating themselves a new 'job', just walking into the Taxi Industry with no taxi licence using their private car. How amazing that this is allowed to keep going on. They are backed by a company that is not subject to our laws it seems, as it does not reside in Australia. A company that is bullying its way into our market place.

There is much media and discussion about the unfair playing field that the taxi industry now finds itself on, potential risk to public safety and potential ruin of many small businesses, drivers and operators who are involved in different ways with the taxi industry.

Is this the tip of the iceberg, and what will deter other industries from doing the same if they perceive our country soft and ripe for the take?

The overseas companies may be un-touchable, but the drivers however do reside in our country and are required to abide by the law I would have thought. As things stand however they have no reason to do so. They continue to do as they please. Is this reasonable and acceptable when there is an option here to begin to right the wrong that is occurring? Some drivers I have seen interviewed actually believe they are not doing anything wrong.

Something clearly needs to be done. Many people are suffering huge stress and anxiety wondering where this will end.

In closing I have to say, I wonder why I even need to write this letter and beg for sensible strong action to be taken.

Yours faithfully

Julie Macdonald