

From:
To: [Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee](#)
Subject: Please Stop Uber
Date: Thursday, 22 October 2015 9:26:59 PM

To
Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee

I read with great relief and excitement that the Katter Party are introducing a private members bill to add demerit points to the fines already imposed on illegal taxi services, namely Uber drivers.

My husband purchased a taxi licence a number of years ago as his family have been involved in the taxi industry for over 40 years. He drove the taxi to make ends meet, and now leases it, but we are still paying it off. We, like many others, have been worried sick since this foreign company, backed by huge multinationals, have entered the market, completely disregarding our laws, disobeying the governments directives and making the state look like fools. Added to that, they are refusing to pay taxes and are intent on destroying an industry that supports tens of thousands of jobs. Not to mention the effect this will have on the thousands of disabled people and veterans who rely on the taxi industry. If they are not stopped, our licence will be worth nothing and we will be forced to sell our home to pay off the debt. As a wife and mother of three young children, as you can imagine, this has caused us much heartache and concern. My father-in-law, who drove cabs for 35 years and is now in retirement, has aged 10 years in the last year, and has gone from a fit and healthy 80 year old to an old man worried sick that all that he worked for will be for nothing. I know of some owners who are going to lose their homes, lose everything they have worked for, because they believed the government would support the taxi industry. If things continue as they are, I fear for the health of many taxi owners. Many will end up in hospital, or worse.

I pray that you will be in support of the bill and will urge your colleagues to do the same. I along with many other law abiding citizens will be watching how things unfold. We hope you will support the taxi industry in this time of need and help get this piece of legislation through. The industry is falling rapidly and things are getting worse as each day passes. People are hurting now. Taxi drivers incomes are drying up every week because we can't compete with Uber's cut price fares, as they don't follow your laws. Support this bill now, get it through, then it will give you the upper hand when negotiating with Uber in the future. Maybe then they will tow the line when it comes to following the laws set by the elected government, rather than make up their own laws and disregard those that don't agree with their "business model".

I know there are members of the public who use Uber. Why wouldn't they? They undercut the regulated taxi fare (which the government sets) because they pay no expenses and fees. And I hear Ms Trad say that people are using them, so we may need to find a space

for them. What sort of logic is that coming from the government? People also use and like drugs. Does that mean we should allow it? People like to speed on the roads. Does that mean we should allow them? There are plenty of underage drinkers out there. Do we just change the law and allow them to do it? The answer to all of these is no. Governments make decisions to protect their citizens, and to make sure regulations are being met. This is no different. The safety of the public is paramount. Please stop these people breaking the law by supporting this bill.

Regards