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IPNRC

#545

Douglas Mitchell

Research Director
Infrastructure, Planning and Natural
Resources Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir,

Re the Infrastructure, Planning and
Natural Resource Committee inquiry into the
Transport Legislation (Taxis Services)
Amendment 2015 with the object of
increasing certain penalties to the
Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act
1994 to deter illegal taxis operators.

I would like to make a submission
due to the current situation of a multinational
company operating via mobile telephone an
illegal taxi service in Queensland which
is undermining all the sections of the
Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Act
1994 from 112 69 to 110 81 and subsequent
regulations.

There should be a penalty added to the
Act and other relevant Acts and Regulations
associated with Transport Operations (Passenger
Transport) Act 1994 for the mandatory
confiscation by Queensland Transport and/or
Queensland Police Service of vehicles that are
used as illegal taxis in Queensland
irrespective of the users other business or
private use of said vehicle and the said

vehicle be sold to an automobile wrecking company by tender and monies received be placed in consolidated revenue or used by Queensland Transport to defray costs of the administration of the Act.

The reasons for the above are thus:

Fines and recording demerit points are only a "band aid" solution to the discouragement of illegal taxis as I believe that the multinational company is paying the fines of the illegal taxi operators and the use of demerit demerit points would not have a great effect as illegal taxi operators would just wait for the required time for the points to roll over and start again, therefore the use of mandatory confiscation of the motor vehicle would be of a greater deterrent.

There is a precedent for the confiscation of the motor vehicle in the Act of controlling the "hooning" practice on public roads and I feel sure that there are other areas where goods and possessions of the public during illegal activities are confiscated.

Yours faithfully,
Darius Mitchell,