

Mr Peter Vincent


CANNON HILL Q 4170

10 April 2017

Committee Secretary

Public Works and Utilities Committee

Parliament House

George Street

BRISBANE Q 4000

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Transport and Other Legislation (Personalised Transport Reform) Amendment Bill 2017

One of the key responsibilities of good government is the safety of its citizens. Thousands of pieces of legislation have been enacted since Federation to address the fundamental right of Australian citizens, to safety, whilst going about their normal day-to-day lives.

I make this submission to you because I am gravely concerned that the safety of Queenslanders will be compromised if the Amendment Bill is passed in Parliament. We currently have a taxi industry which is highly and appropriately regulated to ensure the safety of the people who work and use taxis in Queensland. It is common knowledge that the Queensland taxi industry is a shining example of world's best practice.

Ridesharing in Queensland has proliferated as a direct result of weak and inept government intervention and the free reign given to Uber and the like to do as they please in direct contravention of laws specifically designed for the protection of the citizens of Queensland. This draft Bill does nothing to instil passenger safety. Legitimate Queensland taxis are required by law to have hard-wired security cameras, to have hard-wired real-time trackable and traceable GPS units, to be traceable by Queensland Police, to have emergency distress systems in all vehicles, and to have six-monthly inspections by DTMR. It is apparent that rideshare in Queensland can be operated by anyone who has access to a vehicle and smart phone, with no true and legitimate safeguards in place. This draft Bill does nothing to address these issues.

If I want to pay someone to drive me across town, I have two choices: 1/ the existing taxi industry, being a necessarily highly-regulated, insured, safe means of transport, OR 2/ rideshare, being random, uncertain, and essentially unregulated, where anyone with access to a vehicle and a smart phone can drive me around. Again, this draft Bill does nothing to address the inherent problems with the rideshare 'industry'.

The existing taxi industry has upheld its legal and moral responsibilities (and at great expense) to the travelling public at large, and it is unfair that rideshare has been allowed a free ride into the market. This draft Bill does NOTHING to 'level the playing field' which was promised to the industry, and as such, should not be passed in Parliament.

Yours sincerely



Peter Vincent
