From:

Public Works and Utilities Committee

Subject: Date: RE: Transport and Other Legislation (Personalised Transport Reform)

Monday, 10 April 2017 3:43:48 PM

## PRIVATE SUBMISSION



10th April, 2017

Committee Secretary
PublicWorks and Utilities Committee
Parliament House
George Street
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RE: Transport and Other Legislation (Personalised Transport Reform)

Amendment Bill 2017

Dear Committee Secretary,

I am student on a gap year, writing to draw to your attention to the many problems I see with Uber, and the large number of problems that are evident in the Bill and associated legislation. I have repeatedly had to drop home friends who could not afford the surged prices of Ubers. I have also repeatedly seen Uber vehicles across the state causing, or nearly causing, accidents. bearing the uber logo have come to sudden stops, or pulling out into oncoming traffic heedless of the risk to themselves and others on the road. Given that it is hard to tell that these cars are commercial vehicles that might be constantly stopping, rather than normal drivers, I worry about the high risk of accidents.

I worry that the Bill does nothing to ensure that everyone in the state will be able to get a taxi or other form of transport when they need it. I also have friends who have lost their life savings because of what the government has done to the taxi industry in Queensland.

The Bill does not prevent further harm to either the industry, or to the people whose lives depend upon it, and leaves the industry vulnerable to the tyranny of monopoly in the future. As the Explanatory Notes state: "the ability of the State to ensure compliance with the laws of Queensland is critical to up holding the rule of law."

The State government has failed to ensure compliance with the laws of Queensland in the passenger transport sector since 2014, and the current Bill does little to suggest that this will improve.

I cannot help but fear that the attitude taken in this matter undermines the very validity of our laws and government. This foreign corporation has flagrantly ignored the existing laws, and used bullying tactics to force changes that compromise the safety and economic freedom of the people. I am deeply concerned by the example and precedent this sets.

The Qld taxi industry was an excellent example of cooperation between private industry, market freedom, community security, and government regulation. This state of affairs was sadly ruined by the influx of a poorer service from a foreign corporation that, despite proclamations of competition, is merely attempting to create their own monopoly at the expense of the consumer.

I ask that the Committee recommend that the government not pass the Bill and further, that the government revisit the Transport Strategy in order to formulate a specific and sustain able plan that will ensure Queenslanders have long term access to safe, affordable transport services. By necessity, this will require the whole approach to booked hire service to be revisited to assess whether a viable method can be found to integrate booked hire services sensibly into the existing market structure without the decimation of the historically successful and sustainable industry.

Thank you for noting my views.

Yours sincerely,