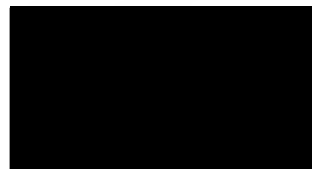


Research Director
Public Works and Utilities Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Fraser Hethorn



Dear Director

I thank you for the opportunity to have a say on the Transport and other Legislation Personalised Transport Reform Amendment Bill 2017 which was tabled in Parliament on the 21st March 2017.

Before I give you my thoughts on the future of a viable taxi service, I have to say that I am extremely disappointed in the way the personalised transport review has been undertaken.

The Personalised Review Taskforce, review headed up by Mr Jim Varghese was a farce and the end result was almost a carbon copy of the New South Wales review. Just a few weeks after the decision was handed down Jim's assistant Ms Madonna King came on radio and said her friends used personalised transport. So thanks to Jim and Madonna a lot of hard working honest people all Queenslanders have had their livelihood, superannuation, family business taken from them. These salt of the earth drivers, owners and operators have had the rug pulled from under them.

I have some very dear friends in the taxi industry who are now just a shell of who they once were. All of these people have done nothing wrong. They abided by the law and became servants to their customers and the taxi industry for a lot of years. Many of these taxi operators started out with one car and through hard work and long hours behind the wheel, mostly working seven days, they created a small business to hand on to their family. That is why this review has absolutely devastated so many people.

It is essential for the **safety and a duty of care** that all forms of public transport, ride share included, must have the following included in the Personalised Transport Reform Amendment Bill 2017.

Fatigue Management;

Cross referencing of ride share drivers who drive taxis as well. These drivers must log on to drive taxis but there is no system that I am aware of to record their driving hours when ride sharing.

Traffic and Criminal History checks;

Criminal and traffic history checks must be conducted regularly on all public passenger drivers and ride share drivers. This is very important to provide safe travel for passengers.

Maximum Fares for Taxis;

To control costs for passengers set a maximum fare for taxis and remove surge pricing from the personalised transport platform.

Safety at Taxi Ranks for Passengers and Drivers;

Install security cameras at taxi ranks and reintroduce rank supervisors for the busy periods.

Passenger Vehicles Taxis

Retain the age limits for sedan vehicles and maxi taxis. Sedans six years and maxis taxis eight years.



Personalised Transport Vehicles;

Once the mobile phone is switched off in a personalised vehicle the location of the vehicle is no longer known. All of these vehicles require tamper proof GPS units to be fitted and to be remotely accessible to an operation room.

Personalised Transport Driver and Passenger Safety;

The driver should have something that he can activate to alert the operation room should a problem arise. Personalised vehicles should be clearly marked front and rear with fixed signage or alternatively special number plates should be introduced.

Personalised Transport Cameras;

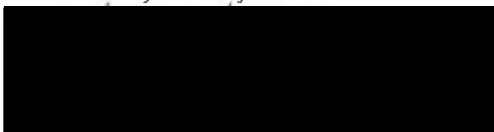
At least two modern fixed sound and vision cameras should be installed in personalised vehicles for the safety of the driver and passenger. Also a photo ID of the driver should be in place on the dashboard of the vehicle.

I have attached a copy of a list of requirements for you to consider from the Taxi Council of Queensland.

“ The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

Edmond Burke

I thank you for your time.





TCQ Submission
PTRAB...1 1.pdf

List of Requirements

1. Establish an independent Personalised Transport Commission with legislative amendment, policing/enforcement regulatory and policy development capacity.
2. Bailment Agreements must be retained, with the minimum work conditions and standards for all personalised transport drivers enshrined in legislation.
3. Security Camera requirements must establish a minimum standard, be consistent and uniform across all personalised transport providers to ensure the safety of all drivers and passengers (regardless of the service chosen) and to meet Queensland Police requirements.
4. Commercial grade, anti tamper GPS units must be fitted to all personalised transport vehicles and be remotely accessible to authorised parties.
5. All personalised transport vehicles to have emergency systems in place to support driver safety.
6. The Bill and Regulations must be fully consistent with all other relevant legislation including, but not limited to, disability discrimination and work health and safety.
7. All personalised transport vehicles be required to have dedicated number plates (not to fit plates) rather than easily removable stickers. Plates to be provided only when evidence of appropriate CTP, public liability and certificate of inspection are provided.
8. Immediately define and establish appropriate and equitable premiums for the class/cases of Compulsory Third Party insurance for all personalised transport providers to address continued uncertainty.
9. All personalised transport providers must hold public liability insurance to prevent the State Government becoming the default insurer and to minimise potential risks to the community.
10. In the absence of vehicle age restrictions, establish clear vehicle quality and usage rate standards and hold operators accountable.
11. Increase licence fees for Booked Hire Service Drivers and Authorised Entities to help fund expected increase in regulatory and enforcement costs for Government and to better reflect the level of trust being placed on licence holders.
12. All drivers must have an ABH and be registered to test before receiving a Drivers Authorisation.
13. The Government must establish a process for managing the risks of multiple affiliation by drivers in terms of both chain of responsibility and fatigue management. This includes drivers operating across both personalised transport and other transport (ie truck, bus) sectors.
14. Fully integrate taxis into the GoLand public transport network in the short term.
15. Clearly define what constitutes a 'hail' and 'hailing'.
16. Expressly prohibit the establishment and operation of Booked Hire service pick up/and drop off zones on public and private land, which represent pseudo tax ranks.
17. Establish and maintain a register of drivers that have been disqualified or removed from platforms to prevent drivers from simply shifting to a new platform.