

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Dear Friends,

Now is the time to stand and support the legitimate, regulated services that the Queensland taxi industry has spent years perfecting.

Over the past few months we have seen people like you, in the taxi industry and wider community, continue to fight for their right to a legal and safe transport service provider. We have heard of drivers and owners across Queensland knocking on the doors of politicians and decision makers, in the hopes of getting one very simple message across - **Queensland needs taxis.**

As this message continues to be spread across Queensland an important decision on the future of the industry draws near. In March this year, KAP was successful in moving an urgency motion to ensure a decision on increased penalties for illegal taxi operators was made as soon as possible. Because of this, on the week beginning the 18th of April, the *Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill 2015* introduced by KAP, will be voted on.

This bill proposes to impose demerit points on those operating a taxi service without a licence, in an attempt to preserve the legitimate and regulated system already in place. Throughout the Parliamentary committee process, it has become obvious that attempts to enforce the law with regard to illegal taxi services were abandoned months ago; our bill intends to right this wrong.

The Queensland Government must be held accountable and uphold the laws of the state. It is essential local operators and drivers who comply within the law are protected, competition is fair and the needs of vulnerable users are put first. In the days leading up to the final debate on this bill we urge you to contact your local state member and ask for support for KAP's *Transport Legislation (Taxi Services) Amendment Bill* when it comes before the House.

Let your member know you will not let our government ignore the rights of local business owners, and let an American multinational continue to operate outside the law to the detriment of law abiding Queensland citizens.

We are not against competition in industry, we are against inaction in the face of injustice.

If we can be of any assistance or further information on the bill, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to working and continuing to fight for the taxi industry and its dedicated drivers, owners and operators.

Yours sincerely,



**Shane Knuth MP**

Member for Dalrymple



**Rob Katter MP**

Member for Mount Isa