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# Phone app puts cabbie jobs at risk

AN ANTI-bullying hotline has been set up for taxi drivers amid claims that cabbies are being harassed for accepting fares through new smartphone apps.

Andrew Campbell, co-founder of goCatch, said Queensland drivers had been threatened with losing their jobs by taxi networks.

The app uses GPS technology to enable drivers to link directly with passengers, instead of going through a booking office. More than 1000 Queensland cabbies have registered to use it.

The app has been criticised by the industry peak body Taxi Council of Queensland as a "rogue" system which could put passengers at risk.

Mr Campbell said several drivers had now reported being threatened with penalties or disaffiliation from taxi networks for using the app.

Taxi Council CEO Benjamin Wash rejected the claims. "No one is being bullied. This is a stunt by a business trying to obtain free publicity."

**Daryl Passmore**

Empire Theatre, Toowoomba – 8 May 2013, 7:30pm  
Call 1300 655 299 or [www.empiretheatre.com.au](http://www.empiretheatre.com.au)

QPAC Concert Hall, Brisbane – 15 May 2013, 8pm  
Call 136 246 or [www.qtix.com.au](http://www.qtix.com.au)

