

## PRESS RELEASE

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## MEC NTULI NOTES STATEMENT MADE BY THE TAXI INDUSTRY IN THE PROVINCE

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Bheki Ntuli has noted the statement made by the South African National Taxi Council in the province regarding the impact of the Covid-19 regulations on their business and has reaffirmed his unwavering commitment to further engagements with the industry leadership as it was an important sector.

MEC Ntuli also emphasized that the department was committed to providing the taxi industry with the necessary support.

He, however, reiterated that the Covid-19 regulations that have been gazetted by government need to be fully adhered to by all sectors and warned that anyone found to be violating the regulations will face the full might of the law.

"As the provincial government we are open to engagements with all stakeholders, including the taxi industry, to address any issues of concern. The taxi industry is part of the consultations that are taking place at a national level to address concerns raised by various sectors that have suffered financial losses as a result of Covid-19. I have engaged law enforcement agencies in the province to develop a comprehensive plan of action in anticipation of any anarchy or violation of the Covid-19 regulations and rule of law," said MEC Ntuli.

MEC Ntuli said the government was not undermining efforts made by the taxi industry to support it in curbing the spread of this deadly virus and abiding by the set regulations.

"Negotiations with the taxi industry are at an advanced stage and some concessions have been made by government to ensure that the industry doesn't suffer any further financial losses," added MEC Ntuli.

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