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September 25, 2018

Honorable Representative Paul Holvey Chair  
House Business and Labor Committee

House Business and Labor Committee Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

The Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, a 1,200+ local member business association, is in support of consistency among Oregon transportation network companies (TNC's) such as Lyft and Uber, relative to their operations within municipalities.

Ridesharing allows people to get a ride at the push of a button on their mobile phone and allows Oregonians to earn extra money by giving other people rides using their personal vehicles. A statewide framework for this technology would bring Oregon up to speed with the 46 other states and Washington D.C. that have created regulations on non-controversial items, including background checks and vehicle inspections to provide a consistent experience for drivers and passengers.

This service enhances transportation options for Oregonians and tourists alike, while also acting as a complement to existing transportation infrastructure investments. By getting a Lyft or an Uber instead of driving their cars, people are not just saving time, they are reducing congestion, freeing up parking and making more efficient use of existing roads.

A statewide framework establishes fair and necessary regulations across the state and greatly expands reliable transportation for all Oregon communities.

We urge this committee to support establishing a clear, workable regulatory framework that can be applied to all ridesharing companies regardless of size and cities of operation to ensure that safe, reliable and affordable rides are available for all in Oregon. We are glad to see that the House Business and Labor Committee is discussing this important issue today and we look forward to supporting a statewide bill during the 2019 legislative session. Please feel free to contact me about this issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nick Williams  
Chief Executive Officer  
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce