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Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

I represented the Communications Workers of America 7901 and our workers at Union Cab during the tainted hearings to allow TNC in the Portland area. I have no ill will towards anyone working for either the cab companies or the TNC. I do however have many concerns about the fundamental fairness in practice of the TNC networks. Any search engine should give one cause to not be hasty in granting fewer regulations to a company such as Uber that is fraught worldwide with lawsuits scandals and outright bans. A search of the litigation and lobbying expenses alone is an eye opener.

The city of Portland is looking into the graylining tactics to avoid inspection. Uber et.al. succeeded in lowering the standards for vehicle inspection and driver background checks. The TNC insurance model is not held to the same standards as the cab companies. There are no cameras to protect drivers and consumers. Surge pricing is predatory. The special needs transport has never performed close to what the demands on the cab networks were held to and that is appalling . California and our own Labor Commissioner ruled that the drivers were employees to give drivers some protections. TNC hides behind a claim of client privilege when asked for information.

I would like to urge all members of the committee to take into consideration the working people in the taxi industry as well as the general public before granting less regulations to TNC companies especially while under investigation in this state and others.