

Chair Barker and Members of the House Committee on Business and Labor,

My name is Owen Christofferson, I live at 6114 NE Alameda St in Portland, and I have driven for Uber/Lyft off and on for over three years. I appreciate the opportunity to tell the story of my experience as a driver in the TNC industry.

In addition to being a driver, I also volunteered for Transportation Fairness Portland, a group of drivers who demand a voice to address issues we see with our working conditions. Last year, through our grassroots effort, our proposal of a TNC regulatory board was approved by the Portland City Council.

We need a voice. As a longtime driver, I've suffered through pay cut after pay cut, other unilateral changes in the fare structure, and all while driving with the fear of being deactivated or otherwise retaliated against for speaking up, as has happened to drivers in Seattle.

I urge you to vote no on this bill. It leaves drivers across the state vulnerable to low earnings, inadequate insurance protections, and a lack of federal employee labor protections. The bill will also preempt any local regulation any Oregon municipality will try to enact regarding the TNC industry, including our hard won regulatory board in Portland.