

March 18, 2019

The Honorable Jeff Barker Chair, House Labor Committee Oregon House of Representatives

Re: HB 3023 – Transportation Network Companies

Chair Jeff Barker and members of the Committee on Business and Labor, Speaker Kotek, and Majority Leader Williamson:

TechNet is the national network of over eighty technology companies that promotes the growth of the innovation economy through bipartisan advocacy at the federal and state level in all fifty states. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from small startups to the most prominent global companies and represents more than three million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, clean energy, gig and sharing economy, venture capital, and finance.

TechNet supports HB 3023 (McLain), which will create statewide standards for transportation network companies (TNCs), drivers, and vehicles in Oregon. The bill sets standards for driver background checks, vehicle safety, and insurance.

We support HB 3023 because along with infrastructure and transit improvements, innovation and technology are improving the safety, efficiency, and sustainability of Oregon's transportation system. Expanding more transportation options to more Oregonians by establishing statewide rideshare standards under HB 3023 supports thriving communities and economies across the state.

In just a few years of operations, TNCs have increased regional mobility and provided meaningful earning opportunities to thousands of drivers who need supplemental and flexible income opportunities. Ridesharing also gives consumers a safe, affordable, and reliable transportation choice. Thus, by connecting drivers seeking flexible earning opportunities with riders in need of direct transportation, TNCs provide important and useful services for residents of Oregon. Looking forward, this technology can continue to help reduce the environmental impact of transportation, connect citizens to transit, provide earning opportunities, and enable people to reliably get where they need to go at any time.

As the voice of the innovation economy, TechNet advances public policies and private sector initiatives at the federal, state, and local levels that make the United States the world leader in innovation. Expanding access to ridesharing to all Oregonians will allow the state to remain a climate of innovation and competition, allowing Oregon's tech industry to flourish.



The TechNet respectfully requests the committee support HB 3023 and commends Chair Barker and the committee for giving this legislation due consideration in service to your constituencies and Oregonians across the state. This bill is critical to propelling the state forward while creating safety and sustainability for the rideshare community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration on this matter. TechNet looks forward to continuing to engage on this issue. Please do not hesitate to reach out if I may be able to provide you with additional information.

Sincerely,

/s/

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