



TECHNET
THE VOICE OF THE
INNOVATION ECONOMY

March 20, 2019

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

Re: HB 3001- Peer-to-peer car sharing

Chair Jeff Barker and members of the Committee on Business and Labor:

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network technology companies that promote the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50 state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet 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 is committed to advancing the public policies and private sector initiatives that make the U.S. the most innovative country in the world.

TechNet respectfully opposes HB 3001 and the -1 amendments which attempt to treat peer-to-peer car sharing the same as rental car companies. Oregon already regulates peer-to-peer car sharing in statute, and this bill is an unnecessary attempt to restrict the growth of a burgeoning technology.

Peer-to-peer car sharing has become an incredibly convenient way of connecting people wishing to utilize an internet platform to safely and securely share their car when their personal vehicle is not being used. Thousands of Oregonians have signed up to use these types of platforms, and this technology should continue to grow in popularity.

Peer-to-peer car sharing is not the same as a rental car operation. These programs allow individual car owners to cover their expenses by sharing their car. This is the type of innovation that Oregon should be fostering. By forcing a new technology to conform to an outdated tax and fee structure created for a distinctly separate industry, HB 3001 would only discourage the use of this new technology.

These companies have proven to be good partners with the state. They also hope to become partners Port of Portland to develop a reasonable car sharing permit that meets the needs of the Port but is also tailored to peer-to-peer car sharing companies and reflective of how they operate.

Oregon has already demonstrated be a leader in the technology space and should continue to do so by not advancing this legislation this session. Thank you for your consideration on these matters, and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Christina Fisher
Executive Director
TechNet
cfisher@technet.org
508-397-4358