



185 Berry Street
Suite 5000
San Francisco, CA 94107

Senate Transportation & Energy Committee
Proponent Testimony for SB22-144: Public and Nonprofit Entities Rideshare Contracts
Brent Kent, Public Policy Manager for Lyft

Chairwoman Winter and members of the Senate Transportation & Energy Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 22-144 which would resolve conflicting statutes and clarify that government agencies and nonprofits may contract with transportation network companies.

Lyft is proud to partner with government agencies and governmental nonprofits throughout Colorado. Our work with these entities provides their constituents, often individuals and families from vulnerable communities, with affordable and accessible transportation. In Colorado, 42% of Lyft rides start or end in low-income areas, 21% of riders use Lyft to access healthcare, and 58% of riders use Lyft to access public transportation.

Through our partnership with the Mile High United Way, Lyft's Jobs Access Program provides free rides to job seekers to interviews and to a job for the first two weeks until they've received their first paycheck. Other recent Lyft initiatives in Colorado include the Vaccine Access Program which provides free rides to and from COVID-19 vaccine and other medical appointments, in addition to Lyft's Disaster Relief Access Programs which provide free rides for families impacted by the recent Marshall Fire.

Among Lyft's partnerships with government entities is our Grocery Access Program with the Boulder County Department of Health through which we remove transportation barriers to grocery stores for low-income county residents. Lyft also partners with the Regional Transit District to allow riders to purchase bus and train tickets and plan their trips in the Lyft app.

Low-cost and accessible transportation access is in the best interest of all Coloradans, but this is especially true for low-income or transportation insecure communities. As Colorado families are already experiencing increases in the cost of housing, transportation, basic needs, and essential services, we should protect affordable transportation options and programs like these.

We appreciate your leadership in protecting affordable and accessible transportation access. Thank you, Mrs. Chairwoman and members of the committee, for your consideration of this bill, and for Senator Zenzinger's leadership in bringing it forward.

Brent A. Kent
brentk@lyft.com