

Hello, my name is Lauren Smith and I am the Black Civic Engagement and Policy Manager for Soul 2 Soul Sisters. Soul 2 Soul is a racial justice organization focused on eradicating anti-Black racism, especially for Black Women, Femmes, trans people, and their families. On behalf of Soul 2 Soul, we ask that you vote yes on SB24-075.

Every fall, Soul 2 Soul Sisters recognizes Black Women's Equal Pay Day, a day set aside to mark the additional amount of time a Black Woman would have to work to make the same amount that a white man made in the previous year. We advocate for policies that address this deep racial and gender pay gap and ensure that all Black workers, and especially Black Women, are paid a fair wage and are able to plan for themselves and their families around their income.

Large rideshare companies, which disproportionately employ Black and brown people, do not offer their workers the transparency that they need to make informed decisions about their income. Rideshare companies even use this lack of transparency to their advantage, implementing hidden algorithms that maximize profits and cost to the consumer, while minimizing the worker's pay. These algorithms differentiate pay in ways that are hidden from workers and consumers and inevitably lead to discrimination and harm, particularly for Black and brown workers.

On a personal note, I do not own a car and am a frequent rideshare consumer - in 2023 I spent over \$4k on rideshares. As someone who deeply values workers' rights and equal pay for equal work, the lack of transparency around where my rideshare payment is going, and the knowledge that my drivers are not afforded the basic right to know their expenses and earnings upfront, makes me reconsider my rideshare use.

Everyone has the right to know they are being paid equitably and when we allow big companies to take advantage of their workers, Black and brown workers are hurt the most and the wage gap remains wide. We need more protections for these rideshare drivers, and SB075 will support not only these workers, but consumers that use rideshare as well. Please vote yes. Thank you.



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February 20, 2024

The Honorable Jesse Danielson
Chair
Senate Business, Labor & Technology Committee
Colorado General Assembly
200 E. Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203

Re: SB24-075, Transportation Network Company Transparency, TechNet Concerns & Opposition

Dear Chair Danielson and Honorable Members of the Senate Business, Labor & Technology Committee:

I write on behalf of TechNet to express our concerns with SB24-075 as currently drafted, and to respectfully ask to the Committee to not advance the bill at this time until all of the considered language is publicly available.

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating 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 over 4.2 million employees and countless customers in the fields of information technology, artificial intelligence, ecommerce, the sharing and gig economies, advanced energy, transportation, cybersecurity, venture capital, and finance.

The language in front of you is the work of months of negotiations and compromises. Majority Leader Rodriguez and Senator Priola have worked hard to craft legislation that created unprecedented transparency for drivers while limiting the impact on day to day users. We appreciate their thoughtful approach to the process so far.

However, the advocates and sponsors of the bill have made clear they intend to add an entire section to the bill only after it leaves Committee. Included in this section will be a provision around how drivers who are removed from the platform can get access back to it. Last year, a similar section proposed in SB23-098 created safety concerns for riders and could have potentially allowed bad actors back onto these platforms.

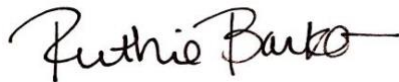
We do not believe that the effect this language would have is the intent of Majority Leader Rodriguez or Senator Priola, but it is important that stakeholder businesses have a chance to weigh in on proposed laws that impact the safety of their customers. Committee members and Coloradans who rely on rideshare services deserve the ability to weigh in on such consequential legislation.

Rideshare companies have made it clear that they want to find a solution to this issue and have offered several suggestions and ideas. The language in front of you is proof that while these companies may not agree on everything, they can in fact compromise.

Given how early it is in the legislative session, affected businesses deserve a chance to do the same with the deactivation review process and find common ground on this provision.

TechNet looks forward to working with the Committee to address the above outlined issues. Thank you for your consideration of our perspective, please contact me if you have any questions regarding our opposition at rbarko@technet.org.

Best regards,



Ruthie Barko
Executive Director, Colorado & the Central U.S.
TechNet

Cc: Members of the Senate Business, Labor & Technology Committee