

Testimony Before the Committee on Business and Labor Relating to HB 3023 and HB 3379 March 18, 2019

Submitted by Jim McCauley, Legislative Director League of Oregon Cities

Chair Barker Vice Chairs Barreto and Bynum and Members of the Committee:

With the emergence of Transportation Network Companies (TNC) over the last few years Oregon is positioned to create legislation that provides guidance and a set of standards that allows local governments the ability to vet the value of TNCs in their respective communities and make adjustments.

HB 3023 and HB 3379 offer a stark contrast in the approach for TNCs. The League has been participating with a work group on HB 3379 and believes this template best matches how Oregon should approach managing TNCs in Oregon.

HB 3023 establishes a business license process that would be managed at the state level by Oregon Department of Transportation, an agency not well equipped to handle the licensing let alone the expertise dealing with TNCs. HB 3023 effectively establish a new level of state bureaucracy for managing TNCs, thus preempting local governments from having any role in licensing local operations that work within their jurisdictions. Local control and home rule remain critical policy screens for the League and is fundamental to our evaluation of legislation.

HB 3379 is the legislative template that should be used. HB 3379 establishes a state-wide standard for local governments to use. It provides a floor of minimum requirements that represent a combination of standards in place in Portland and Eugene and the Portland of Portland. These entities have the most experience with TNCs and we should look to their leadership and perspective when determining the best approach in Oregon.

From the League of Oregon Cities perspective, we believe these elements are important to evaluating the best option forward for regulation of TNC's. The approach for managing TNCs at a minimum should include the following elements:

- Ensuring public safety and consumer protections,
- Providing access to low-income communities, communities of color, and people with disabilities,
- Managing traffic congestion and reducing climate pollution,
- Creating a flexible system that can respond to a quickly changing and growing industry and that fits within the local context.

We urge your support for HB 3379 and ask for your opposition to HB 3023.