

Oregon Rideshare Drivers Deserve the Same Rights As All Workers

A FAIR LIVING WAGE

"I have seen the pay for this work go from something livable to something laughable. Rideshare drivers are essential workers keeping Oregon moving, yet we lack fair wages and basic protections."

-Peter, Medford (Sen. District 3/House District 6)

Uber & Lyft have lowered driver pay by nearly 300% since 2017, while expenses & cost of living have only risen. Algorithms set the pay rates, with no transparency for passengers or drivers, and with completely different rates for different drivers, particularly those outside of Portland.

Uber & Lyft continue to irresponsibly flood the streets with new drivers, intensifying road congestion, increasing environmental impacts, and adding wear and tear on our roads—all while depressing drivers' opportunities and pay.

Meanwhile the companies have honed their talking points to inflate the appearance of driver compensation and avoid further regulation or workers rights laws:

Lyft will say: "Drivers earn 70% of the total rider fare!"

Translation: The 70% is a myth—to reach that number, they first deduct all of their own expenses through confusing "external fees" and then calculate the percentage from what's left over.

Uber will say: "Drivers earn over \$30 an 'active' hour!"

Translation: Uber invented this term and its definition, counting only the time drivers are picking up and carrying a rider, not the many hours a day spent available on the app waiting for passengers. It also doesn't address how many "active hours" a driver might be able to get.

TNC drivers speak from experience:

"Uber and Lyft put any price they want. There's no consistency and there's no way to track if the ride was even priced accurately. Lyft says you get 70%, but on more than 90% of my rides, I'm only getting 30-40% of what the customer paid."

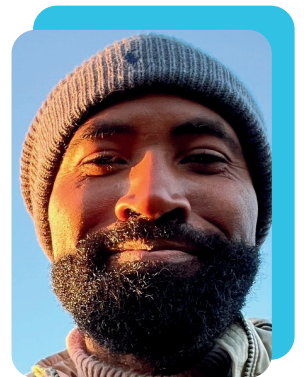
-Jennifer, Eugene (Sen. District 4/House District 7)

PROTECTION FROM WRONGFUL TERMINATION

Apps and algorithms also decide who gets to keep their job and who doesn't.

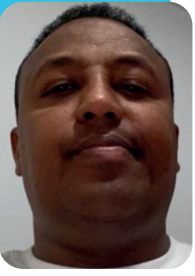
"We are frequently deactivated without a clear explanation, transparent appeals process, or recourse. I personally know over 100 such drivers, almost 95% of whom identify as BIPOC. It is incredibly frustrating and dehumanizing to lose our jobs in this way. How is this fair?"

-Seth, Dundee (Sen District 12/House District 23)



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"I face a language barrier since I do not read, write, or speak English fluently. I was terminated and falsely accused of drunk driving; as a Muslim who does not consume alcohol, I was shocked by the allegation. We risk our lives to provide a service that many people depend on, yet we are often left to face serious accusations and financial hardship without adequate support or transparency."

-Ali, Portland (Sen. District 14/House District 28)

Drivers like Ali, drawn disproportionately from BIPOC communities, are "deactivated" due to things like app glitches, background checks that are taking too long, or in many cases false—even racially motivated—complaints.

BENEFITS LIKE PAID SICK TIME & FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

"I am disabled, and I care for my bedbound husband. While I might be able to do a few other jobs, this is the only one that I can work around caregivers and the possibility of them calling out, and doctor's appointments for both of us. Meanwhile costs are skyrocketing, and Uber has lowered our pay."

-Anji, Salem (Sen. District 9/House District 18)

Because of low pay and systematic exclusion, rideshare drivers are forced to work long hours with no safety nets in place, and make impossible choices between our families' health and our income.

"Uber and Lyft have lowered my pay for years, and I am without paid sick time or medical leave for my family. With basic benefits, I would be worried about feeling better rather than paying my bills today."

-Joe, Salem (Senate District 9/House District 17)

TRANSPARENCY & EQUITY FOR PASSENGERS

Our passengers all across the state depend on rideshare drivers to provide essential and accessible mobility services. Don't they deserve equity and transparency too?



"I was disheartened and angry to learn how little compensation drivers get of my fares from Lyft and Uber—to the point where I've reconsidered using them at all. Drivers deserve a fair share, and we both deserve transparency in the gig economy."

-Mandy, Beaverton (Sen. District 18/House District 35)

Let's make 2025 the year we codify fair pay, job protections, and benefits for all Oregon rideshare drivers!

"We ask for your support in mandating transparent and equitable pay structures to ensure rideshare companies treat us fairly. Please consider introducing legislation eliminating manipulative algorithms that unfairly reduce our earnings. As our representatives, stand with us in this fight for fairness and justice."

-Ahmed, Bethany (Sen. District 17/House District 34)

