

Submitter: Juan Pedro Moreno Olmeda
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1166

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Juan Pedro Moreno Olmeda, and I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 1166, which establishes long-overdue protections for transportation network company (TNC) drivers working across the state of Oregon.

As someone who has been a lifelong advocate for improving worker rights, I have witnessed how gig economy workers often face unstable working conditions, lack of basic labor protections, and at times receive unjust account deactivations that leave them with no income and no clear path to appeal. SB 1166 offers a more just approach to these systemic problems. This bill also ensures minimum compensation and paid sick time for drivers, rights that I believe should be guaranteed for everyone. For way too long, drivers have faced and have had to deal with the costs of wear and tear on their vehicles, rising gas prices, and increasing platform fees. All while their ability to earn a living has become harder due to the rising cost of living. Requiring a minimum compensation standard will promote economic stability for thousands of Oregonians who rely on TNC driving as a primary form of income.

Equally important is the provision around “just cause deactivation and appeals processes”. Without this safeguard, drivers can lose their livelihoods overnight with little to no explanation, or support. Creating a transparent and fair policy for deactivation is a critical step in protecting workers from retaliation and biased decisions. I also support the creation of a Driver Resource Center, which would be operated by a nonprofit selected by the Bureau of Labor and Industries, to provide education, assistance, and a voice for drivers who are navigating the complex gig work landscape.

SB 1166 represents a significant step forward in affirming that our drivers across the state of Oregon deserve dignity, transparency, and fair treatment. I respectfully urge you to vote “YES” on SB 1166 and help build a more equitable and just transportation economy in our state.

Sincerely,

Juan Pedro Moreno Olmeda