



March 17, 2017

Representative Sam Kito
House Labor & Commerce Committee Chair
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Rm 403
Juneau, AK 99801

Re: Support for House Bill 132, relating to transportation network companies and transportation network company drivers.

Dear Representative Kito:

The Alaska State Chamber of Commerce (Alaska Chamber) supports the current version of House Bill 132, an act relating to transportation network companies and transportation network company drivers.

The Alaska Chamber is a non-profit founded in 1952 working to promote a positive business environment in Alaska. The Chamber is the voice of small and large business representing hundreds of employers and local chambers across Alaska. Our member companies employ over 100,000 hard-working Alaskans.

There are many places in Alaska where adequate transportation services is lacking. Transportation network companies are just another way to provide affordable transportation to Alaskans. Having additional choices breeds competition that will benefit the users of these types of transportation and improve the quality of service. It will also provide economic opportunity to people who can use this avenue to garner additional income. Thirty-eight other states have already passed similar comprehensive legislation and now have transportation network companies providing their services to the citizens of those states.

The Alaska Chamber would also like to see consistency in the laws and regulations governing transportation network companies and the drivers. It may be impossible to operate if having to comply with differing rules in every political subdivision of the state. In the major population centers in Alaska there are multiple political subdivisions and if drivers had to comply with different rules as they cross through the different jurisdictions I fear it would prove to be too onerous on them to operate.

The Alaska Chamber encourages you to support HB 132 and pass the bill from your committee.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Curtis W. Thayer', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Curtis W. Thayer
President & CEO

Cc:

Representative Adam Wool
Representative Andy Josephson
Representative Louise Stutes
Representative Chris Birch
Representative Gary Knopp
Representative Colleen Sullivan-Leonard