



March 18, 2019

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Oregon Progressive Party Position on Bill at 2019 Session of Oregon Legislature:

HB 3379: Support

Dear Committee:

The Oregon Progressive Party (OPP) supports this bill, which:

Permits local government to license and regulate vehicle-for-hire services and hired drivers.

Provides that person may not engage in business as vehicle-for-hire service or provide rides for hire except in accordance with provisions of Act and any ordinance, regulation or other law that applies in jurisdiction in which vehicle-for-hire service operates.

Authorizes local government to issue license or other authorization to engage in business as vehicle-for-hire service or provide rides for hire and to charge fees for purposes set forth in ordinance, regulation or other law.

Requires vehicle-for-hire service to keep certain records and to enter into data-sharing agreement with local government if local government ordinance, regulation or other law requires agreement.

Requires individual who applies to become hired driver to submit application with specified information to vehicle-for-hire service.

Requires vehicle-for-hire service to forward application to law enforcement agency or other regulatory agency for purpose of conducting criminal background checks.

Provides that vehicle-for-hire service may not permit applicant to become hired driver if applicant is not qualified under specified criteria.

Specifies automobile insurance coverage requirements for hired drivers and

vehicles for hire.

Permits insurers to exclude coverage for activities in which individual engages as hired driver.

Punishes violation of Act as unlawful trade practice under Unlawful Trade Practices Act.

Becomes operative on January 1, 2020.

This bill is superior to HB 3023 for many reasons, including that it does not preempt local regulation of services such as Uber and Lyft. We believe that local conditions can warrant local regulation of these services, which can cause unnecessary traffic congestion, parking problems, and pollution.

We commend the informative testimony of Noah Ernst of Radio Cab Co., who identifies and documents the numerous advantages of HB 3379 over HB 3023 and suggests several reasonable amendments to HB 3379.

Oregon Progressive Party

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