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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

April 10, 2014

Chairman Robert Powelson
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

A-2014-2415045

Dear Chairman Powelson,

As you know, two out of state ridesharing companies (Uber and Lyft) are currently operating in Allegheny County without following PUC rules designed to keep passengers, drivers and the community safe.

I have been informed that one of these companies, Lyft, recently filed an application for experimental service with the PUC. However, I was very concerned to learn about the "personal auto liability insurance" requirements Lyft has proposed in their application, which I believe to be wholly inadequate.

I have followed closely the news stories from across the country regarding attempts by various ridesharing companies to shirk their responsibility to pay insurance claims. And I am concerned for the safety and wellbeing of my constituents.

To ensure the safety of the riding public, I must insist that the PUC require all ride sharing vehicles in Allegheny County to follow safe vehicle maintenance practices, require driver background checks and carry the same "Form E" insurance which the PUC requires of vehicles that currently provide taxi service. A passenger in a Lyft vehicle should be afforded the same protections as a passenger in a taxi. And ensuring that protection is in place is the responsibility of the PUC.

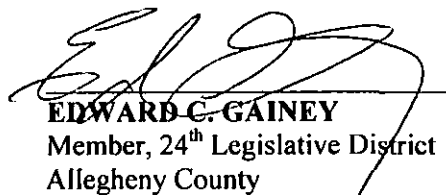
I would greatly appreciate your prompt review of this situation so we can create an environment that welcomes new competitive services, but is also responsible and respectful of the laws designed to protect all of our citizens.

RECEIVED

Sincerely,

MAY 2 2014

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU


EDWARD C. GAINEY
Member, 24th Legislative District
Allegheny County

CC: PUC Commissioners