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House of Representatives commonwealth of pennsylvania harrisburg

May 6, 2014

INSURANCE, CHAIRMAN DEMOCRATIC POLICY LEGISLATIVE BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
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Robert Powelson, Chairman Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building Third Floor North Harrisburg, PA 17120 A - 20

Dear Chairman Powelson:

I am writing in regards to two out-of-state ridesharing companies (UberX and Lyft) that have applications before you for operation in Allegheny County.

Innovation is not something I attempt to stifle, but protecting my constituents is always at the forefront as I review issues. Actually, I support competition when done in a responsible manner that follows laws which were put in effect to protect my constituents and all residents of the Commonwealth.

It is my understanding that Lyft and Uber have filed applications with the PUC to do business in Allegheny County and the entire state for a ride-sharing program. As the Minority Chairman of the House Insurance Committee, I am urging you to ensure that these providers have adequate and proper auto insurance coverage to protect the drivers and the consumers in this type of commercial service.

I am aware that current PUC requirements for passenger carriers are set forth in Title 52 of the Pennsylvania Code, Section 32.11(a) and (b). Subsection (b) sets forth the specifics of the insurance- a minimum of \$35,000 to cover liability for bodily injury, death or property damage incurred in an accident arising from the authorized service, and including first party medical benefits in the amount of \$25,000 and first party wage loss benefits in the amount of \$10,000 for passengers and pedestrians.

I have spent time researching this issue and I have come across occurrences in other states that bring me pause. As we consider moving forward with this endeavor, jt is important that these ridesharing companies are made to comply with the same insurance standards as traditional taxicab companies. Drivers need to know they are protected and have valid insurance of the same insurance of the sam

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coverage. Consumers need to know that the ridesharing company's insurance will cover them in the event of an accident. As the Minority Chairman of the Insurance Committee, I believe it is imperative that the participants in this program are covered by a commercial automobile insurance policy.

Thank you for your time and courtesy to comment.

Sincerely.

Tony DeLuca, Chairman House Insurance Committee

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 cc: John Coleman, Vice Chairman Gladys Brown, Commissioner James Cawley, Commissioner Pamela Witmer, Commissioner Rep. Robert Godshall, Maj. Chairman, Consumer Affairs Comm. Rep. Peter Daley, Min. Chairman, Consumer Affairs Comm.

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