

Dear Chair Holvey, Members of the Committee (House Business and Labor),

My name is Sebastian Fenimore. I live at 14820 SE Misty Dr, Apt 401, Happy Valley, Oregon 97086. I have been a driver for Uber/Lyft for 1.5 years.

Uber and Lyft have changed the rates from 1.50 per mile, and 0.30 per minute to 1.15 per mile, and 0.20 per min. It was a huge 30% cut to all drivers' pay. It makes all drivers struggle to keep driving as our main income. It's not enough to pay bills, maintenance costs, fuel, and taxes after a commission is paid to Uber/Lyft. Before their rates changed, it was great being a driver; to be able to be on a flexible schedule and earn a good amount of money compared to the average employee working for a company. Before the rate changes I was able to make close to 550-575 after all commission/fuel cost, driving an average of 25-30 hours a week. Just enough to cover all of my bills while still having time for other side jobs. But last year I had to drive 35-40 hours a week to keep up the same income. I've had to push other side jobs off my schedule. And it's affected my lifestyle.

But that's not all. Since Uber and Lyft consider us independent contractors, we are unable to file unemployment benefits or worker comps or have civil rights protection if something happens to us.

Drivers can earn a lot. But we pay so much in taxes. After all the expenses we pay, even the mileage write-off isn't enough. Uber/Lyft take commissions and still charge "rider" fees on each ride. They don't even help pay our taxes, which they should be, after all the commissions and rider fees they earn from us.

Also, the taxi companies have increased their rates which are now double Uber/Lyft's current rates. And all the taxi drivers are under their protections, benefits that we need. Uber/Lyft are pretty popular choices of transportation because they are very affordable and have a much nicer atmosphere. But we drivers aren't paid enough to cover what we need. We need a bill that would help increase the rates back to what they used to be. Then Uber/Lyft would still be affordable choices of transportation. No passengers have ever complained about the cost compared to taxis. Take a look at the rate history at: <https://TheDriversCollectivePDX.com/tnc-rate-info>

A lot of passengers love Uber/Lyft, not only because they are affordable rides, they're also the most friendly drivers, smoke-free, nice atmosphere, and excellent service. To keep this

wonderful service that we offer, we need small increases on rates to make it worthwhile to continue driving for many years to come.

Thank you for your time to read my concerns.

Sebastian Fenimore