



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6683

January Session, 2015



AN ACT REGULATING TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) As used in this section
2 and sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act:

3 (1) "Transportation network company" means a company, including
4 a corporation, partnership, trust, association, sole proprietorship or
5 similar organization, that provides prearranged transportation services
6 by means of a digital network or software application service that
7 connects passengers to transportation network company services
8 provided by transportation network company drivers. "Transportation
9 network company" does not include a taxicab or a for-hire vehicle
10 owner.

11 (2) "Transportation network company driver" means an individual
12 who is not an employee of a transportation network company, but
13 who provides transportation network company services using a motor
14 vehicle that is (A) owned, leased or otherwise authorized for use by
15 the individual, and (B) not a taxicab, motor vehicle for livery service or
16 any other for-hire vehicle.

17 (3) "Transportation network company services" means the
18 transportation of a passenger between points chosen by the passenger

19 and prearranged with a transportation network company driver
20 through the use of the transportation network company's digital
21 network or software application service. "Transportation network
22 company services" commence when a transportation network
23 company driver accepts a request for transportation received through
24 such digital network or software application service, continue while
25 the transportation network company driver transports the passenger
26 in such driver's motor vehicle, and end when the passenger exits such
27 vehicle.

28 (4) "Taxicab" has the same meaning as provided in section 13b-95 of
29 the general statutes, as amended by this act.

30 (5) "Motor vehicle in livery service" has the same meaning as
31 provided in section 13b-101 of the general statutes, as amended by this
32 act.

33 (b) A transportation network company shall register annually with
34 the Commissioner of Transportation, in writing, on a form provided by
35 the commissioner. The registration shall include (1) the transportation
36 network company's name, business address and telephone number; (2)
37 if the company is registered in another state, the name, address and
38 telephone number of the company's agent for service of process in this
39 state; (3) the name, address and telephone number of a person at the
40 company who will serve as the main contact for communications
41 between the commissioner and the company; (4) information sufficient
42 to demonstrate, to the commissioner's satisfaction, the company's
43 compliance with the provisions of this section and section 2 of this act;
44 and (5) any other nonproprietary information the commissioner may
45 require. Each annual registration shall be accompanied by a fee of five
46 thousand dollars.

47 (c) (1) The transportation network company's Internet web site or
48 software application service shall display to a potential passenger a
49 picture of the transportation network company driver and the license
50 plate number of the motor vehicle being used to provide

51 transportation network company services, before such passenger
52 enters such vehicle.

53 (2) A transportation network company driver shall display on the
54 motor vehicle being used to provide transportation network company
55 services a consistent and distinctive logo, insignia or emblem at all
56 times when the transportation network company driver is providing
57 transportation network company services. Such logo, insignia or
58 emblem shall be (A) sufficiently large so as to be readable during
59 daylight hours at a distance of at least fifty feet, and (B) reflective,
60 illuminated or otherwise visible in darkness.

61 (d) (1) A transportation network company may charge a fare for the
62 transportation network company services provided to passengers,
63 provided the transportation network company shall disclose to
64 passengers by means of its Internet web site or software application
65 service (A) the fare calculation method, (B) the applicable rates being
66 charged, and (C) an option to receive an estimated fare prior to
67 entering the transportation network company driver's motor vehicle.

68 (2) Within a reasonable period of time following the completion of
69 transportation network company services, a transportation network
70 company shall transmit an electronic receipt to the passenger that lists
71 the origin and destination of the trip, the total time and distance of the
72 trip, and an itemization of the total fare paid, if any.

73 (3) A transportation network company shall adopt a policy
74 prohibiting the solicitation or acceptance of cash payments from
75 passengers and shall notify transportation network company drivers of
76 such policy. Any payment for transportation network company
77 services shall be made only electronically, using the transportation
78 network company's digital network or software application service.

79 (4) For purposes of this subdivision, "dynamic pricing" means
80 offering transportation network company services at a price that
81 changes according to the level of demand. If demand for

82 transportation network company services is high, and the
83 transportation network company elects to implement dynamic pricing,
84 the transportation network company's Internet web site or software
85 application service shall (A) provide notice to a potential passenger
86 that dynamic pricing is in effect prior to such passenger requesting
87 transportation network company services, (B) include a feature that
88 requires a potential passenger to confirm that he or she understands
89 that dynamic pricing will be applied before such services request may
90 be completed, and (C) provide a fare estimator that enables the
91 potential passenger to estimate the cost under dynamic pricing prior to
92 requesting such services.

93 (e) (1) A transportation network company shall adopt a policy of
94 nondiscrimination on the basis of destination, age, race, color, creed,
95 sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, intellectual
96 disability or physical disability with respect to passengers and
97 potential passengers, and shall notify all transportation network
98 company drivers of such policy.

99 (2) A transportation network company shall provide a potential
100 passenger with an opportunity to indicate whether a wheelchair-
101 accessible vehicle is required. If a transportation network company
102 cannot arrange wheelchair-accessible transportation network company
103 services, the company shall direct the potential passenger to an
104 alternate provider of wheelchair-accessible service, if available.

105 (f) A transportation network company shall maintain (1) individual
106 trip records for at least one year after the date such transportation
107 network company services were provided, and (2) transportation
108 network company driver records for at least one year after the date
109 such driver's activation on the company's digital network or software
110 application service ended.

111 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) Prior to permitting an
112 individual to act as a transportation network company driver on its
113 digital network or software application service, a transportation

114 network company shall (1) require the individual to submit an
115 application to the company that includes the individual's name,
116 address, age, operator's license number, as defined in section 14-1 of
117 the general statutes, driving history record, motor vehicle registration
118 and proof of financial responsibility, as required by section 14-112 of
119 the general statutes, and (2) conduct, or have a third party accredited
120 by the National Association of Professional Background Screeners
121 conduct, a state and national criminal history records check, including
122 a search of state and national sexual offender registry databases, or
123 arrange for the fingerprinting of the individual to be submitted to the
124 Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history records
125 check.

126 (b) No individual shall be hired by a transportation network
127 company to be a transportation network company driver if such
128 individual: (1) Has more than three moving violations in the three
129 years prior to the date of such individual's application to be a driver,
130 or one major violation in such three-year period; (2) has been
131 convicted, within seven years prior to the date of such individual's
132 application to be a driver, of driving under the influence of drugs or
133 alcohol, fraud, sexual offenses, use of a motor vehicle to commit a
134 felony, a crime involving property damage, theft, acts of violence or
135 acts of terror; (3) is listed in the state or national sexual offenders
136 registry; (4) does not possess a valid operator's license; (5) does not
137 possess proof of registration for each motor vehicle used to provide
138 transportation network company services; (6) does not possess proof of
139 financial responsibility as required under section 3 of this act for each
140 motor vehicle used to provide transportation network company
141 services; or (7) is not at least nineteen years of age.

142 (c) A transportation network company driver (1) shall comply with
143 all applicable laws regarding nondiscrimination against passengers or
144 potential passengers on the basis of race, color, national origin,
145 religious belief or affiliation, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation or
146 gender identity, (2) shall comply with all applicable laws relating to

147 accommodation of service animals, (3) shall not impose additional
148 charges for providing services to persons with physical disabilities
149 because of such disabilities, (4) may only accept rides booked through
150 the transportation network company's digital network or software
151 application service, and (5) shall not solicit or accept street hails.

152 (d) (1) A transportation network company shall implement a zero
153 tolerance policy on the use of drugs or alcohol while a transportation
154 network company driver is providing transportation network
155 company services, or is logged into the company's digital network or
156 software application service and is not providing such services. Such
157 company shall provide notice of this policy on its Internet web site and
158 software application service, and include procedures to report a
159 complaint about a transportation network company driver whom a
160 passenger reasonably suspects was under the influence of drugs or
161 alcohol during the course of the transportation network company
162 services.

163 (2) Upon receipt of a passenger complaint alleging a violation of
164 such policy, the transportation network company shall immediately
165 suspend such driver's access to the company's digital network and
166 software application service and shall conduct an investigation into the
167 reported incident. The suspension shall last until completion of the
168 investigation.

169 (3) The company shall maintain all records relevant to the
170 enforcement of such policy for a period of not less than two years from
171 the date that a passenger complaint is received by the company.

172 (e) (1) The motor vehicles used to provide transportation network
173 company services may be coupes, sedans and other light-duty
174 vehicles, including vans, minivans, sport utility vehicles, hatchbacks,
175 convertibles and pickup trucks that are equipped and licensed for
176 operation on public roads.

177 (2) Before an individual is authorized to be a transportation network

178 company driver, and every two years thereafter, the transportation
179 network company shall ensure that a dealer or repairer, licensed under
180 sections 14-51 to 14-65l, inclusive, of the general statutes, conduct a
181 safety inspection of any motor vehicle that such transportation
182 network company driver uses to provide transportation network
183 company services. The transportation network company and such
184 transportation network company driver shall maintain documentation
185 of such inspections for not less than two years. The safety inspection
186 shall include, but need not be limited to, (A) foot brakes, (B)
187 emergency brakes, (C) steering mechanism, (D) windshield, (E) rear
188 window and other glass, (F) windshield wipers, (G) headlights, (H) tail
189 lights, (I) turn indicator lights, (J) brake lights, (K) front seat
190 adjustment mechanism, (L) doors, (M) horn, (N) speedometer, (O)
191 bumpers, (P) muffler and exhaust system, (Q) condition of tires,
192 including tread depth, (R) interior and exterior rearview mirrors, and
193 (S) safety belts and air bags for driver and passengers. Such safety
194 inspection shall be in addition to any other inspections required by
195 law.

196 (3) Motor vehicles used to provide transportation network company
197 services shall be subject to inspection by agents or employees of the
198 Department of Motor Vehicles.

199 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) Each transportation network
200 company driver shall maintain sufficient financial responsibility that
201 satisfies any claim for damages by reason of personal injury to, or the
202 death of, any one person and for damage to property, in the following
203 amounts:

204 (1) For personal injury or death, at least: (A) For any one person,
205 fifty thousand dollars; and (B) for all persons on account of any
206 accident, where the carrying capacity of the motor vehicle used to
207 provide transportation network company services is (i) seven
208 passengers or less, one hundred thousand dollars, (ii) eight to twelve
209 passengers, inclusive, one hundred fifty thousand dollars, (iii) thirteen
210 to twenty passengers, inclusive, two hundred thousand dollars, (iv)

211 twenty-one to thirty passengers, inclusive, two hundred fifty thousand
212 dollars, and (v) thirty-one passengers or more, three hundred
213 thousand dollars; and

214 (2) For damage to property, at least ten thousand dollars.

215 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) If the Commissioner of
216 Transportation finds that a transportation network company has
217 violated any provision of sections 1 and 2 of this act, such company
218 shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars for the first offense
219 and for a second offense shall be fined two thousand dollars and may
220 be enjoined from further provision in this state of transportation
221 network company services, as provided in subsection (b) of this
222 section.

223 (b) Any transportation network company that violates any
224 provision of sections 1 and 2 of this act may be enjoined from further
225 operation or provision of any transportation network company
226 services by order of the Superior Court. The Commissioner of
227 Transportation shall bring any application for an injunction to the
228 judicial district in which the agent for service of process of any such
229 transportation network company is located. The court, upon a finding
230 of a violation of sections 1 and 2 of this act, may issue an injunction
231 and make such orders for the discontinuance of such business as it
232 deems equitable.

233 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) Any person who provides for-
234 hire transportation in a personal motor vehicle without being a
235 transportation network company driver, or who provides for-hire
236 transportation services in a personal motor vehicle without going
237 through a transportation network company's digital network or
238 software application service shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

239 Sec. 6. Subsection (a) of section 13b-97 of the general statutes is
240 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
241 *1, 2015*):

242 (a) No person, association, limited liability company or corporation
243 shall operate a taxicab until such person, association, limited liability
244 company or corporation has obtained a certificate from the
245 Department of Transportation certifying that public convenience and
246 necessity require the operation of a taxicab or taxicabs for
247 transportation of passengers, the acceptance or solicitation of which
248 originates within the territory specified in such certificate except as
249 provided under subsection (d) of this section. No such certificate shall
250 be issued unless the department finds that the person, association,
251 limited liability company or corporation is suitable to operate a taxicab
252 service, after giving due consideration to, at a minimum, the following
253 factors: (1) Any convictions of the applicant under federal, state or
254 local laws relative to safety, motor vehicle or criminal violations; (2)
255 the number of taxicabs to be operated under the certificate, provided
256 no applicant for a new certificate shall operate fewer than three
257 taxicabs; (3) the adequacy of the applicant's financial resources to
258 operate the taxicab service; (4) the adequacy of insurance coverage and
259 safety equipment; and (5) the availability of qualified taxicab
260 operators. The commissioner shall request the state criminal history
261 records check for any person or any officer of any association, limited
262 liability company or corporation applying for such certificate from the
263 State Police Bureau of Identification. The commissioner shall [arrange
264 for the fingerprinting of any person or any officer of any association,
265 limited liability company or corporation applying for such certificate
266 and forward the fingerprints to said bureau which shall submit the
267 fingerprints] conduct, or have an accredited third party conduct, a
268 state and national criminal history records check, including a search of
269 the state and national sexual offender registry databases, or may
270 arrange for the fingerprinting of such person or officer to be submitted
271 to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history
272 records check for any federal conviction specified in subdivision (1) of
273 this subsection. The commissioner shall charge a fee for each such
274 national criminal history records check which shall be equal to the fee
275 charged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for performing such
276 check. Such certificate shall be issued only after written application,

277 fingerprinting [and] or said criminal history records check for the same
278 has been made and public hearing held thereon. The application shall
279 be accompanied by a fee of two thousand dollars and the fee for said
280 criminal history records check. Upon receipt of such application, the
281 department shall fix a time and place of hearing thereon, provided
282 such hearing shall be held not earlier than three months after such
283 receipt, and shall promptly give written notice of the pendency of such
284 application and of the time and place of hearing thereon to such
285 applicant, the mayor of each city, the warden of each borough or the
286 first selectman of each town in which the applicant desires to originate
287 the transportation of such passengers, and to any common carrier
288 operating within the territory specified. Notwithstanding any
289 provision of this subsection, [to the contrary,] the department may,
290 upon receipt of a written application, amend an existing certificate to
291 increase the number of taxicabs which may be operated pursuant to
292 the certificate without holding a hearing on the application, provided
293 the department issues a legal notice of such application in a daily
294 newspaper in accordance with the provisions of section 1-2, gives
295 written notice of the pendency of such application to any common
296 carrier operating within the territory specified and no objection is filed
297 with the department within thirty days of each such notice.

298 Sec. 7. Section 13b-95 of the general statutes is repealed and the
299 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

300 The term "taxicab" includes any motor vehicle operated upon any
301 street or highway or on call or demand accepting or soliciting
302 passengers indiscriminately for transportation for hire between such
303 points along streets or highways as may be directed by the passenger
304 or passengers being transported, provided nothing in this chapter shall
305 be construed to include, as a taxicab, a motor bus, as defined in section
306 14-1, [or] a motor vehicle in livery service when such motor vehicle is
307 hired for a specific trip or trips and is subject to the direction of the
308 person hiring the same, or a motor vehicle operated by a
309 transportation network company driver.

310 Sec. 8. Section 13b-101 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 311 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2015*):

312 The term "motor vehicle in livery service" includes every motor
 313 vehicle used by any person, association, limited liability company or
 314 corporation which represents itself to be in the business of transporting
 315 passengers for hire, except (1) any motor bus and any taxicab operated
 316 under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the
 317 Department of Transportation, (2) any school bus, as defined in section
 318 14-275, or student transportation vehicle, as defined in section 14-212,
 319 when used for the transportation of children under the age of twenty-
 320 one years, (3) any school bus, as defined in section 14-275, when used
 321 for the transportation of passengers (A) by virtue of a contract with
 322 any public or private institution of higher education, (B) pursuant to a
 323 contract for service to a special event held at a location or facility
 324 which is not open for business on a daily basis throughout the year,
 325 not to exceed a period of ten days, or (C) pursuant to a contract with a
 326 municipality for which the carrier provides school transportation
 327 service, (4) any motor vehicle operated by or through a community-
 328 based regional transportation system for the elderly established
 329 pursuant to section 55 of public act 05-280, [and] (5) any motor vehicle
 330 operated by or through a community-based regional transportation
 331 system for the visually impaired, and (6) any motor vehicle operated
 332 by a transportation network company driver.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	13b-97(a)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	13b-95
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	13b-101

INS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

JUD *Joint Favorable*