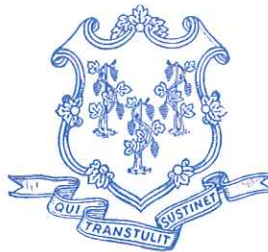


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SENATE

**Testimony of Senate Majority Leader Bob Duff in Support of Senate Bill 12
AAC Transportation Network Company Driver Requirements
Transportation Committee
February 13, 2019**

Senator Leone, Representative Lemar, Senator Martin, Representative Devlin and distinguished members of the Transportation Committee, I am submitting testimony today in favor of Senate Bill 12, *An Act Concerning Transportation Network Company Driver Requirements*.

This bill is simply about fairness. It is about fairness for Connecticut's Uber and Lyft drivers and making sure that they are treated the same as drivers from neighboring states. Currently if you are an Uber or Lyft driver from Connecticut you can pick up and drop off riders from anywhere in Connecticut. But, if you take a passenger to New York you cannot initiate another ride there and bring a passenger back to Connecticut.

This is because in order to pick up a passenger in New York State and drive for a transportation network company you must have a New York State driver's license. New York will not allow Connecticut licensed drivers to initiate rides in their state. And yet, New York State licensed drivers are allowed to pick up and drop off passengers anywhere in Connecticut. A Connecticut licensed driver will take a passenger to one of the airports in New York City. The driver must pay for the gas and the tolls to get there. But they cannot bring anyone back to Connecticut from those airports. They still need to pay for the gas and the tolls to get back to Connecticut but they cannot offset this cost with another ride. How is this fair? It is not.

The results have been that Connecticut residents who drive for Uber and Lyft are losing out on a significant amount of business and income to New York drivers. This has been especially harmful for our residents in Fairfield County who drive for the transportation network companies.

This bill does not completely solve the problem. But what it will do is insure that New York State licensed drivers are treated in Connecticut the same way that Connecticut residents are treated in New York. Maybe it will result in New York State rescinding this unfair law. I thank the committee for raising this concept and ask that you vote to draft the bill and give it a favorable report. I look forward to working with you as this bill moves forward.