



May 7, 2024

VIA Email

Honorable Ron Latz
Minnesota State Senate
200 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Senate File (SF4780)

Dear Chair Latz and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

On behalf of Service Employees International Union – Local 26 (SEIU – Local 26), I am respectfully submitting this letter to support for SF4780, legislation that would provide for an improvement in labor standards for Transportation Network Company (TNC) drivers.

SEIU Local 26 is Minnesota's Property Services Union representing over 8,000 janitors, security officers and window cleaners in the Twin Cities metro area. Moreover, SEIU – Local 26 has historically and continues to serve as an integral institution in addressing historic workplace and wealth disparities faced by Black, Brown, immigrant and low-wage workers.

For several years, members of our local have shared that low wages require them to hold a second job with many serving as drivers for Uber and/or Lyft. Our deep and meaningful relationships with the communities we represent adds a voice for the workers that keep state and local economies prosperous but are often left out of critical decision-making spaces. Moreover, we have been a steady ally to drivers across the state who are fighting to receive the compensation and standards they deserve.

As a member of the Governor's TNC taskforce, I believe SF4780 represents the progress made on ensuring fairness for the largely immigrant driver workforce. Important provisions in this bill include drivers receiving notices in their primary language so they understand their contract and when it changes, a fair process for driver deactivation and pay transparency so drivers know what they should be paid for each trip.

This legislation represents an important step forward to ensuring TNC drivers receive the respect and dignity they deserve, in addition to holding the multinational TNCs accountable to providing standards that should have always existed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Diaz", is placed above the printed name of the sender.

Samantha N. Diaz
Political Director