



March 11, 2024

VIA Email

Honorable Jennifer McEwen
Minnesota State Senate
Minnesota Senate Building
95 University Avenue West
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

RE: Senate File 4780 (SF4780)

Dear Chair McEwen and Members of the Senate Labor 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 are left out of critical decision-making spaces.

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 below the "Sincerely," text.

Samantha N. Diaz, Political Director