

House Committee on Commerce
And Economic Development
Room 35
Wednesday, March 14, 2018

RE: House Bills 143 & 725

Dear Honorable and House
Committee Members

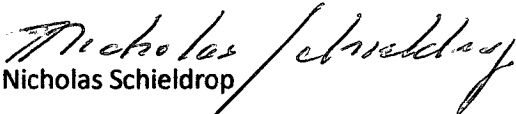
There is an opportunity here to use technology to help people get where they want to go more often and more safely. But both House bills are deceptive bills that is attempting a backdoor to create a statewide taxi licensing scheme – but just for those that are using some unspecified form of a computer program.

Both bills, as originally submitted for your review, deny a level playing field for independent and small taxicab companies Ultimately, it will be costly to the state, its towns and its citizens.

To deny that taxicab companies, Uber and Lyft, are NOT taxicabs is simply misleading to all and a disservice to the citizens of this state. Our citizens, and members of the travelling public deserve better.

I highly urge this Honorable Committee to completely revise both bills and at the same time, permit the Vermont Department of Labor, the Agency of Transportation, not to mention the Department of Motor Vehicles and the Vermont Department of Taxes to weigh-in on both house bills.

Currently, the City of Burlington is collecting a king's ransom from taxicab companies Uber & Lyft. The State of Vermont should not be deprived of the right to access much needed revenue.


Nicholas Schieldrop

151 Stokes Lane

Shelburne, VT 05482

802-355-3004

