KATHLEEN M. DUMAIS

Legislative District 15 Montgomery County

Vice Chair
Economic Matters Committee

Chair
Property and Casualty Insurance
Subcommittee

House Chair

Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 231
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3052 · 301-858-3052
800-492-7122 Ext. 3052
Fax 410-841-3219 · 301-858-3219
Kathleen.Dumais@house.state.md.us

The Maryland House of Delegates Annapolis, Maryland 21401

tee on Legislative Ethics

January 30, 2020

Testimony in Support of House Bill 120 – Motor Carriers and For-Hire Driving Services— Nonprofit Organizations and Volunteer Drivers

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you on behalf of House Bill 120 – Motor Carriers and For-Hire Driving Services—Nonprofit Organizations and Volunteer Drivers.

The need for this legislation came to my attention when I learned that Neighbor Ride, an organization that provides senior citizens with rides to medical appointments and treatments, was informed by the Public Service Commission that the nonprofit could be required to register as a transportation network service. Doing so would necessitate that Neighbor Ride, and other nonprofit organizations that perform similar services with volunteers, obtain a motor carrier permit. Compliance could subject Neighbor Ride's volunteer drivers and the volunteer drivers with other such non-profit organizations to regulations involving licensing and insurance – bear in mind the volunteers use their own duly licensed and insured vehicles. It's easy to imagine a significant drop in such non-profit organizations and volunteer drivers if they were burdened with regulatory impediments.

House Bill 120 clarifies that nonprofit organizations are not required to obtain a motor carrier permit if the nonprofit uses volunteer drivers who are operating their own vehicles. The nonprofit is also exempt from the motor carrier permit if it uses drivers solely for clients of support services, such as aging support, kidney dialysis, and job training.

I respectfully request a favorable report for House Bill 120.