

House Economic Matters Committee
 Delegate C. T. Wilson, Chair
 Delegate Brian M. Crosby, Vice Chair
 Tuesday, March 11, 2025

*Written Testimony for Uber Technologies, Inc. on HB0861, Transportation Network Companies -
 Itemized Receipts and Operator Data Reporting*

At Uber, we understand the importance of transparency and ensuring that drivers have a clear understanding of their earnings—and Uber’s service fee. This not only builds trust, it helps drivers make the best choices for themselves when engaging in platform work. Uber understands the intent of the HB0861 is to allow drivers to see, in real time, how much they are earning on each trip. While we support the bill’s intention of transparency, we believe that current language is (1) unnecessarily duplicative to many of our current practices; and (2) could potentially give riders misleading information that reduces incentives for tipping and ultimately harm drivers’ earnings.

HB0861 includes language that is unnecessarily duplicative. Language in HB0861 is duplicative because Uber is already providing a lot of this information:

What HB0861 proposes	What Uber currently does (driver receipt)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The amount that a rider paid for the trip, 2. The amount the driver will receive from the trip, and 3. The final amount of any additional fees that are charged to the rider. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The amount that a rider paid for the trip before promos; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The amount the driver will receive from the trip; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The final amount of any additional fees that are charged to the rider; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uber’s service fee for that trip; and <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The amount tipped by the rider.

What HB0861 proposes	What Uber currently does (rider receipt)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The amount that a rider paid for the trip, 2. The amount the driver will receive from the trip, and 3. The final amount of any additional fees that are charged to the rider. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The amount that a rider paid for the trip before promos; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The promos utilized by the rider for the trip; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State-mandated taxes and fees; and <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rider tip.

Additionally, HB0861 requires that TNCs provide the Maryland PSC the “total number of operators that were authorized to transport passengers.” Currently, Uber provides this

information to the PSC on a regular basis so this reporting provision would be largely duplicative.

HB0861 would provide misleading information that could ultimately harm the drivers.

Mandating that riders see driver earnings on a trip-by-trip basis raises privacy concerns and fails to give riders a complete and accurate picture of how drivers earn on the Uber platform. Without that understanding riders will get a moment in time snapshot of what a driver is earning, which is misleading. In fact, if a driver were to earn a significant amount on one trip, that may discourage a rider from tipping on future trips.

In Maryland, nearly 80% of drivers drive less than 30 hours a week. This means Marylanders are determining how to use their time without the burden of a set schedule. Uber believes that there is a more accurate way to show Maryland drivers information about their earnings. This year, Virginia passed a bill requiring TNCs to provide each driver with a weekly summary that includes (1) the total fare collected from passengers, (2) the total amount earned, and (3) the percentage earned by the driver that week. This gives drivers a greater understanding of their earnings as well as a full picture of their experience on the platform. The bill also requires TNCs to issue an annual report to the state regulator with (1) the aggregate data regarding the average fare collected from passengers, (2) the total time driven by drives while transporting a passenger, and (3) the total amount earned by drivers in connection with prearranged rides in the Commonwealth.

Uber believes that transparency is important. However, that information should be clear and provide an accurate picture of how and what drivers are earning on the platform.