

HOUSE BILL 18

C5, K3

6lr1562

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Vogel**

Requested: October 31, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation Network Companies – Transportation Network Operators –**
3 **Minimum Payments for Passenger Trips**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a transportation network company to pay operators, after a
5 certain date and for any passenger trip originating in the State, a certain minimum
6 amount per mile and per minute, an additional amount per mile for an operator
7 using a wheelchair accessible vehicle, a certain minimum amount for any passenger
8 trip, and at least a certain percentage of any cancellation fee charged by a
9 transportation network company; adjusting the minimum amount paid per mile and
10 per minute by inflation each year; and generally relating to compensation paid to
11 transportation network operators by transportation network companies.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Public Utilities
14 Section 10–101(a), (l), (m), and (n) and 10–401
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Public Utilities
19 Section 10–410
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

24 **Article – Public Utilities**

25 10–101.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

2 (l) "Transportation network company" means a company that operates in the
3 State using a digital network to connect passengers to transportation network operators or
4 transportation network partners for transportation network services.

5 (m) "Transportation network operator", "transportation network partner", or
6 "transportation network driver" means an individual who:

7 (1) has been issued a transportation network operator's license, or is
8 otherwise authorized, by the Commission to provide transportation network services;

9 (2) receives, through a transportation network company's digital network
10 application, a connection to a potential passenger to transport the passenger between
11 points chosen by the passenger in exchange for the payment of a fee to the transportation
12 network company; and

13 (3) uses a motor vehicle that is owned, leased, or otherwise authorized for
14 use by the individual and is approved for use in providing transportation network services
15 by the Commission.

16 (n) (1) "Transportation network services" means the activities of an operator
17 during:

18 (i) transportation network coverage period one, during which the
19 operator is logged onto and ready to accept a prearranged ride request made through a
20 transportation network company's digital network application;

21 (ii) transportation network coverage period two, during which the
22 operator accepts a ride request from a passenger that is prearranged through a
23 transportation network company's digital network application, and is traveling to a
24 predetermined location to pick up the passenger; and

25 (iii) transportation network coverage period three, during which the
26 operator transports the passenger and continuing until the passenger departs the motor
27 vehicle.

28 (2) "Transportation network services" does not include:

29 (i) providing taxicab services, sedan services, or limousine services;

30 (ii) any shared expense carpool arrangement or service or other type
31 of arrangement or service in which a driver receives a fee that does not exceed the driver's
32 costs associated with providing a ride; or

(iii) transportation services that a nonprofit organization provides through the use of a volunteer driver and the volunteer driver's personal vehicle.

3 10-401.

4 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

5 (b) "Insurance Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner of the
6 Maryland Insurance Administration.

(c) "Operator" means a transportation network operator, transportation network partner, or transportation network driver.

9 10-410.

10 (A) FOR A PASSENGER TRIP ORIGINATING IN THE STATE AFTER JULY 1,
11 2026, A TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY SHALL PAY EACH OPERATOR:

12 (1) A MINIMUM OF:

(I) \$1.66 PER MILE; AND

14 (II) \$0.40 PER MINUTE;

(2) AN ADDITIONAL \$1.18 PER MILE IF AN OPERATOR IS USING A
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE:

17 (3) AT LEAST \$5.00 FOR EACH PASSENGER TRIP, REGARDLESS OF
18 TRIP DURATION OR MILEAGE; AND

19 (4) AT LEAST 80% OF ANY CANCELLATION FEE CHARGED BY THE
20 TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY IF A PASSENGER TRIP IS CANCELED AFTER
21 BOOKING.

22 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ON JULY 1,
23 2027, AND EACH JULY 1 THEREAFTER, THE MINIMUM AMOUNT A TRANSPORTATION
24 NETWORK COMPANY SHALL PAY EACH OPERATOR PER MILE AND PER MINUTE AS
25 REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCREASE BY AN
26 AMOUNT THAT EQUALS THE PRODUCT OF MULTIPLYING:

4 **(2) (I)** THE PERCENTAGE GROWTH IN THE CONSUMER PRICE
5 INDEX FOR ALL URBAN CONSUMERS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS
6 SUBSECTION SHALL BE DETERMINED BY COMPARING THE AVERAGE OF THE INDEX
7 FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ON THE JUNE 30 IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE YEAR
8 FOR WHICH THE MINIMUM AMOUNT PER MILE AND PER MINUTE IS BEING
9 CALCULATED TO THE AVERAGE OF THE INDEX FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING
10 12 MONTHS.

(II) IF THERE IS A DECLINE OR NO GROWTH IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL URBAN CONSUMERS OR IN THE SUCCESSOR INDEX, THE MINIMUM AMOUNT PER MILE AND PER MINUTE SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
15 1, 2026.