

# Alaska State Senate

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## Senator Mia Costello

### MEMORANDUM

Date: Thursday, February 09, 2017

To: Senator Shelley Hughes  
Senator Kevin Meyer  
Senator Gary Stevens  
Senator Berta Gardner

From: Weston Eiler, Committee Aide

Re: Labor & Commerce Committee Members Questions – Senate Bill 14

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During the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee's hearing of Senate Bill 14, the *Let's Ride Alaska Act*, Senators had several questions. Follow-up information is attached and detailed below. Please feel free to contact our office if you have any further questions or if there's anything we can do to be of assistance.

#### **Senator Stevens**

*What is the cause and effect of rideshare companies entering a municipal transportation market?*

A four-month pilot study in Portland, Oregon showed that despite an initial decline of 16% in taxi traffic, combined for-hire Transportation business grew 40% after the introduction of rideshare services.

#### **Senator Gardner**

*What constitutes an Independent Contractor?*

Alaska law does not define "Independent Contractor" in statute. AS 23.20.230(a) provides a list of job-types/occupations that are exempt from the State's Workers' Compensation program.

*Can Uber drivers decline passengers? What are Uber's policies for confirming insurance coverage?*

Yes - Please see attached letter from Uber regarding their verification procedures and driver protection policies.

#### **Senator Hughes**

*Can drivers display proof of insurance electronically?*

Yes - AS 28.22.019(a) allows for Alaskans to display proof of insurance on a mobile electronic device.