



February 6th, 2025

Senator Jesse Bjorkman
Chair, Labor and Commerce Committee
Alaska State Senate

RE: DoorDash Support for Senate Bill 35

Dear Chair Bjorkman and Members of the Committee,

DoorDash is a technology company that empowers the local economy by connecting consumers with their favorite local businesses. In this state alone, we partner with more than 700 merchants and more than 14,000 couriers – or, as we call them, “Dashers” – who chose to earn supplemental income by delivering food, groceries, and other goods throughout their communities. DoorDash stands with the Dasher community who overwhelmingly prefer to remain independent contractors and offers the following comments in support of SB 35.

Dashers and the Importance of Independence and Flexibility

Alaska Dashers value the independence and flexibility that dashing provides. A Dasher never needs to commit to a schedule to be online, is free to decline any offer for work they are sent, and can leave the platform for weeks or months at a time and come back whenever a new need arises.

Time and time again, Dashers tell us that the top motivation for using platforms like DoorDash is the ability to create their own schedule and work as much or as little as they want. Why? Because most Dashers do relatively little work on the platform: in 2023, on average, Dashers in Alaska only spent five hours per week on delivery, and almost 90% delivered less than 10 hours per week. The vast majority have other primary sources of income or responsibilities and only use the platform for supplemental work. In a survey last year, 82% of Dasher respondents say they have a full-or part-time job, are self-employed, students, stay-at-home caregivers or retired.

SB 35 Protects App-Based Delivery Worker Independence

The flexibility and independence that Dashers highly value is incompatible with traditional employment. That’s why in a survey last year, more than 90% of Dasher respondents said they preferred to remain independent contractors.

SB 35 would protect the independence of Dashers and other app-based delivery workers. Many existing worker classification standards were not created with app-based work and workers in mind. SB 35 would establish a classification test for app-based delivery workers that recognizes the unique nature of this work. This standard is already used in Alaska for rideshare drivers and is similar to standards for app-based workers that have been adopted in numerous states including Arizona, California, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Utah.

DoorDash strongly supports SB 35 that would protect the flexibility this type of work provides to the thousands of Alaskan Dashers who choose it. Thank you for your time and consideration and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

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DoorDash