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SB 35 Delivery Network Companies Version A Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 35 would create a level playing field for all workers involved in delivery and transportation network companies in Alaska. The bill would classify individuals who provide prearranged rides or delivery services through digital networks as independent contractors, provided they meet statutory criteria.

The bill would align delivery drivers with the status of rideshare drivers. Currently, delivery drivers are not specifically defined in statute as independent contractors, which has led to confusion and legal battles across the country, threatening services that customers value.

Drivers often switch between passenger transportation and goods delivery, creating the necessity for delivery drivers that obtain work through transportation network companies classified as independent contractors. SB 35 will eliminate inconsistencies in statute related to workers' compensation and create opportunities for people who use and rely on these companies to supplement their income.