

2026 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 1273

Offered January 14, 2026

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A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-2099.45, 46.2-2099.48, 46.2-2099.49, and 46.2-2099.53 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 15 of Chapter 20 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-2099.54, relating to transportation network companies; requirements; civil penalties.

Patron—Glass

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 46.2-2099.45, 46.2-2099.48, 46.2-2099.49, and 46.2-2099.53 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 15 of Chapter 20 of Title 46.2 a section numbered 46.2-2099.54 as follows:

§ 46.2-2099.45. Certificates required unless exempted.

Unless otherwise exempted, no person shall engage in the business of a transportation network company on any highway within the Commonwealth on an intrastate basis unless such person has secured from the Department a certificate of fitness authorizing such business.

The Department shall refuse to grant and revoke any existing certificate of fitness for any transportation network company that enters into an agreement with a TNC partner or passenger that requires waiver of his right to trial by jury.

§ 46.2-2099.48. General operational requirements for transportation network companies and TNC partner.

A. A transportation network company and a TNC partner shall provide passenger transportation only on a prearranged basis and only by means of a digital platform that enables passengers to connect with TNC partners using a TNC partner vehicle. No TNC partner shall transport a passenger unless a transportation network company has matched the TNC partner to that passenger through the digital platform. A TNC partner shall not provide transportation in any other manner. A TNC partner shall not solicit, accept, or arrange transportation except through a transportation network company's digital platform or through a TNC broker.

B. A transportation network company shall authorize collection of fares for transporting passengers solely through a digital platform. A TNC partner shall not accept payment of fares directly from a passenger or any other person prearranging a ride or by any means other than electronically via a digital platform, unless:

1. The ride is booked by a transit system, with a transportation network company with which it has a contract, on behalf of an eligible paratransit passenger;

2. The fare is a defined amount, as published by the transit system, and is communicated to the passenger in advance;

3. The transportation network company specifically authorizes over the digital network the TNC partner to collect cash for the fare, and that authorization includes the amount to be collected. The transportation network company's digital platform shall provide the TNC partner with a method to acknowledge receipt of the fare when it is collected;

4. The passenger receives a receipt for the fare paid; and

5. The transit system receives a receipt and full accounting of cash fares monthly, or on demand, through the transportation network company's account dashboard.

C. A transportation network company with knowledge that a TNC partner has violated the provisions of subsection A or B shall remove the TNC partner from the transportation network company's digital platform for at least one year.

D. A transportation network company shall publish the following information on its public website and associated digital platform:

1. The method used to calculate fares or the applicable rates being charged and an option to receive an estimated fare;

2. Information about its TNC partner screening criteria, including a description of the offenses that the transportation network company will regard as grounds for disqualifying an individual from acting as a TNC partner;

3. The means for a passenger or other person to report a TNC partner reasonably suspected of operating a TNC partner vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol;

4. Information about the company's training and testing policies for TNC partners;

5. Information about the company's standards for TNC partner vehicles; and

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59 6. A customer support telephone number or email address and instructions regarding any alternative
60 methods for reporting a complaint.

61 E. A transportation network company shall associate a TNC partner with one or more personal vehicles
62 and shall authorize a TNC partner to transport passengers only in a vehicle specifically associated with a
63 TNC partner by the transportation network company. The transportation network company shall arrange
64 transportation solely for previously associated TNC partners and TNC partner vehicles. A TNC partner shall
65 not transport passengers except in a TNC partner vehicle associated with the TNC partner by the
66 transportation network company.

67 F. A TNC partner shall carry at all times while operating a TNC partner vehicle proof of coverage under
68 each in-force TNC insurance policy, which may be displayed as part of the digital platform, and each in-force
69 personal automobile insurance policy covering the vehicle. The TNC partner shall present such proof of
70 insurance upon request to the Commissioner, a law-enforcement officer, an airport owner and operator, an
71 official of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, or any person involved in an accident that
72 occurs during the operation of a TNC partner vehicle. The transportation network company shall require the
73 TNC partner's compliance with the provisions of this subsection.

74 G. *Prior to the beginning of any TNC partner's shift, the transportation network company shall require
75 such TNC partner to verify his identity, vehicle information, and license plate number through such digital
76 platform. The transportation network company shall require the TNC partner to verify such information
77 through the digital platform on at least two other separate occasions during such shift to ensure such TNC
78 partner is operating such vehicle and using the account for the digital platform.* Prior to a passenger's
79 entering a TNC partner vehicle, a transportation network company shall provide through the digital platform
80 to the person prearranging the ride the first name and a photograph of the TNC partner, the make and model
81 of the TNC partner vehicle, and the license plate number of the TNC partner vehicle.

82 H. A transportation network company shall provide to each of its TNC partners a credential, which may
83 be displayed as part of the digital platform, that includes the following information:

- 84 1. The name or logo of the transportation network company;
- 85 2. The name and a photograph of the TNC partner; and
- 86 3. The make, model, and license plate number of each TNC partner vehicle associated with the TNC
87 partner and the state issuing each such license plate.

88 The TNC partner shall carry the credential at all times during the operation of a TNC partner vehicle and
89 shall present the credential upon request to law-enforcement officers, airport owners and operators, officials
90 of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, or a passenger. The transportation network
91 company shall require the TNC partner's compliance with this subsection.

92 I. A transportation network company and its TNC partner shall, at all times during a prearranged ride,
93 make the following information available through its digital platform immediately upon request to
94 representatives of the Department, to law-enforcement officers, to officials of the Washington Metropolitan
95 Area Transit Commission, and to airport owners and operators:

- 96 1. The name of the transportation network company;
- 97 2. The name of the TNC partner and the identification number issued to the TNC partner by the
98 transportation network company;
- 99 3. The license plate number of the TNC partner vehicle and the state issuing such license plate; and
- 100 4. The location, date, and approximate time that each passenger was or will be picked up.

101 J. Upon completion of a prearranged ride, a transportation network company shall transmit to the person
102 who prearranged the ride an electronic receipt that includes:

- 103 1. A map of the route taken;
- 104 2. The date and the times the trip began and ended;
- 105 3. The total fare, including the base fare and any additional charges incurred for distance traveled or
106 duration of the prearranged ride;
- 107 4. The TNC partner's first name and photograph; and
- 108 5. Contact information by which additional support may be obtained.

109 K. The transportation network company shall adopt and enforce a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis
110 of a passenger's points of departure and destination and shall notify TNC partners of such policy.

111 TNC partners shall comply with all applicable laws regarding nondiscrimination against passengers or
112 potential passengers.

113 A transportation network company shall provide passengers an opportunity to indicate whether they
114 require a wheelchair-accessible vehicle. If a transportation network company cannot arrange wheelchair-
115 accessible service in a TNC partner vehicle in any instance, it shall direct the passenger to an alternate
116 provider of wheelchair-accessible service, if available.

117 A transportation network company shall not impose additional charges for providing services to persons
118 with disabilities because of those disabilities.

119 TNC partners shall comply with all applicable laws relating to accommodation of service animals.

120 A TNC partner may refuse to transport a passenger for any reason not prohibited by law, including any

121 case in which (i) the passenger is acting in an unlawful, disorderly, or endangering manner; (ii) the passenger
 122 is unable to care for himself and is not in the charge of a responsible companion; or (iii) the TNC partner has
 123 already committed to providing a ride for another passenger.

124 A TNC partner shall immediately report to the transportation network company any refusal to transport a
 125 passenger after accepting a request to transport that passenger.

126 L. No transportation network company or TNC partner shall conduct any operation on the property of or
 127 into any airport unless such operation is authorized by the airport owner and operator and is in compliance
 128 with the rules and regulations of that airport. The Department may take action against a transportation
 129 network company that violates any regulation of an airport owner and operator, including the suspension or
 130 revocation of the transportation network company's certificate.

131 M. A TNC partner shall access and utilize a digital platform in a manner that is consistent with traffic
 132 laws of the Commonwealth.

133 N. In accordance with § 46.2-812, no TNC partner shall operate a motor vehicle for more than 13 hours in
 134 any 24-hour period.

135 O. *A transportation network company shall provide each TNC partner with a dashboard camera that
 136 transmits recorded video footage to the transportation network company for storage. Each TNC partner shall
 137 mount such dashboard camera in his TNC partner vehicle and shall activate such dashboard camera for the
 138 duration of any trip. The Department shall establish guidelines for data retention for such recorded video
 139 footage consistent with this article and any applicable law. The transportation network company shall
 140 establish data retention policies for such recorded video footage consistent with the Department's guidelines
 141 and the requirements of this article. If a report is filed with law enforcement regarding an incident involving
 142 a TNC partner or TNC partner vehicle, the transportation network company shall provide the recorded video
 143 footage from such trip to such TNC partner and any passengers for such trip within 24 hours of such report
 144 being filed.*

145 P. *A transportation network company shall respond to and comply with a subpoena or search warrant or
 146 any court order within 24 hours or the time specified by such subpoena, search warrant, or order, whichever
 147 is shorter.*

148 Q. *No TNC partner shall (i) use another individual's account or credential or permit another individual to
 149 use his account or credential on the transportation network company's digital platform or (ii) knowingly
 150 provide false information in the creation of an account or credential for purposes of creating a fake account.*

151 **§ 46.2-2099.49. Requirements for TNC partners; mandatory background screening; drug and
 152 alcohol policy; mandatory disclosures to TNC partners; duty of TNC partners to provide updated
 153 information to transportation network companies.**

154 A. Before authorizing an individual to act as a TNC partner, a transportation network company shall
 155 confirm that the person is at least 21 years old and possesses a valid driver's license.

156 B. 1. Before authorizing an individual to act as a TNC partner, and at least ~~once~~ twice every ~~two years~~
 157 year after authorizing an individual to act as a TNC partner, a transportation network company shall obtain a
 158 national criminal history records check of that person. The background check shall include (i) a
 159 Multi-State/Multi-Jurisdiction Criminal Records Database Search or a search of a similar nationwide
 160 database with validation (primary source search) ~~and~~, (ii) a search of the Sex Offender and Crimes Against
 161 Minors Registry and the U.S. Department of Justice's National Sex Offender Public Website, ~~and~~ (iii) a
 162 search for any permanent or active restraining orders. The person conducting the background check shall be
 163 accredited by the National Association of Professional Background Screeners or a comparable entity
 164 approved by the Department.

165 2. Before authorizing an individual to act as a TNC partner, and at least once annually after authorizing an
 166 individual to act as a TNC partner, a transportation network company shall obtain and review a driving
 167 history research report on that person from the individual's state of licensure.

168 3. Before authorizing an individual to act as a TNC partner, and at least ~~once~~ twice every ~~two years~~
 169 year after authorizing a person to act as a TNC partner, a transportation network company shall verify that the
 170 person is not listed on the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry or on the U.S. Department of
 171 Justice's National Sex Offender Public Website.

172 C. A transportation network company shall not authorize an individual to act as a TNC partner if the
 173 criminal history records check required under subsection B reveals that the individual:

174 1. Is a person for whom registration with the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry is
 175 required pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 9.1-900 et seq.) of Title 9.1 or is listed on the U.S. Department of Justice's
 176 National Sex Offender Public Website;

177 2. Has ever been convicted of or has ever pled guilty or nolo contendere to a violent felony offense as
 178 listed in subsection C of § 17.1-805, or a substantially similar law of another state or of the United States;

179 3. Within the preceding seven years has been convicted of or has pled guilty or nolo contendere to any of
 180 the following offenses, either under Virginia law or a substantially similar law of another state or of the
 181 United States: (i) any felony offense other than those included in subdivision 2; (ii) an offense under
 182 § 18.2-266, 18.2-266.1, 18.2-272, or 46.2-341.24; or (iii) any offense resulting in revocation of a driver's

183 license pursuant to § 46.2-389 or 46.2-391; or (iv) a misdemeanor conviction of § 18.2-57.2; or

184 4. Within the preceding three years has been convicted of or has pled guilty or nolo contendere to any of
185 the following offenses, either under Virginia law or a substantially similar law of another state or of the
186 United States: (i) three or more moving violations; (ii) eluding a law-enforcement officer, as described in
187 § 46.2-817; (iii) reckless driving, as described in Article 7 (§ 46.2-852 et seq.) of Chapter 8; (iv) operating a
188 motor vehicle in violation of § 46.2-301; or (v) refusing to submit to a chemical test to determine the alcohol
189 or drug content of the person's blood or breath, as described in § 18.2-268.3 or 46.2-341.26:3; or

190 5. Has an active restraining order entered against him.

191 D. A transportation network company shall employ a zero-tolerance policy with respect to the use of
192 drugs and alcohol by TNC partners and shall include a notice concerning the policy on its website and
193 associated digital platform.

194 E. A transportation network company that discovers any instance of a TNC partner using another
195 individual's account or credential or permitting another individual to use his account or credential on the
196 transportation network company's digital platform shall revoke the authorization of an individual to act as a
197 TNC partner.

198 F. A transportation network company shall make the following disclosures in writing to a TNC partner or
199 prospective TNC partner:

200 1. The transportation network company shall disclose the liability insurance coverage and limits of
201 liability that the transportation network company provides while the TNC partner uses a vehicle in connection
202 with the transportation network company's digital platform.

203 2. The transportation network company shall disclose any physical damage coverage provided by the
204 transportation network company for damage to the vehicle used by the TNC partner in connection with the
205 transportation network company's digital platform.

206 3. The transportation network company shall disclose the uninsured motorist and underinsured motorist
207 coverage and policy limits provided by the transportation network company while the TNC partner uses a
208 vehicle in connection with the transportation network company's digital platform and advise the TNC partner
209 that the TNC partner's personal automobile insurance policy may not provide uninsured motorist and
210 underinsured motorist coverage when the TNC partner uses a vehicle in connection with a transportation
211 network company's digital platform.

212 4. The transportation network company shall include the following disclosure prominently in writing to a
213 TNC partner or prospective TNC partner: "If the vehicle that you plan to use to transport passengers for our
214 transportation network company has a lien against it, you must notify the lienholder that you will be using the
215 vehicle for transportation services that may violate the terms of your contract with the lienholder."

216 F. G. A TNC partner shall inform each transportation network company that has authorized him to act as a TNC
217 partner of any event that may disqualify him from continuing to act as a TNC partner, including any of
218 the following: a change in the registration status of the TNC partner vehicle; the revocation, suspension,
219 cancellation, or restriction of the TNC partner's driver's license; a change in the insurance coverage of the
220 TNC partner vehicle; a motor vehicle moving violation; and a criminal arrest, plea, or conviction.

221 H. A transportation network company that has revoked the authorization of an individual to act as a TNC
222 partner, due to (i) any record or instance of committing assault or (ii) any instance of using another
223 individual's account or credential or permitting another individual to use his account or credential on the
224 transportation network company's digital platform, shall notify the Department of the revocation of such
225 individual's authorization. The Department shall notify any other transportation network company to which it
226 has issued a certificate of fitness pursuant to § 46.2-2099.45 of the revocation of such individual's
227 authorization and shall prohibit any such transportation network company from authorizing such individual
228 to act as a TNC partner. The Department may establish a process, including privacy and data retention
229 guidelines, by which transportation network companies may share such information regarding the revocation
230 of the authorization of an individual to act as a TNC partner with the Department and other transportation
231 network companies. If any such revocation of such individual's authorization is reversed, the transportation
232 network company shall notify the Department, and the Department shall notify any other transportation
233 network company to which it has issued a certificate of fitness pursuant to § 46.2-2099.45 of such reversal.

234 I. A transportation network company shall develop policies for measures limiting a TNC partner for
235 whom there is any legal, administrative, or other proceeding pending that may result in the revocation of his
236 authorization to act as a TNC partner by the transportation network company where such measures address
237 concerns for passenger safety and are not otherwise inconsistent with the provisions of this article or any
238 other law.

239 § 46.2-2099.53. Recordkeeping and reporting requirements for transportation network companies.

240 A. Records maintained by a transportation network company shall be adequate to confirm compliance
241 with subsection D of § 46.2-2099.48 and with §§ 46.2-2099.49 and 46.2-2099.50 and shall at a minimum
242 include:

243 1. True and accurate results of each national criminal history records check for each individual that the
244 transportation network company authorizes to act as a TNC partner;

245 2. True and accurate results of the driving history research report for each individual that the
 246 transportation network company authorizes to act as a TNC partner;

247 3. Driver's license records of TNC partners, including records associated with participation in a driver
 248 record monitoring program;

249 4. True and accurate results of the sex offender screening for each individual that the transportation
 250 network company authorizes to act as a TNC partner;

251 5. Proof of compliance with the requirements enumerated in subdivisions A 1 and 3 through 6 of
 252 § 46.2-2099.50;

253 6. Proof of compliance with the notice and disclosure requirements of subsection D of § 46.2-2099.48 and
 254 subsections D and E F of § 46.2-2099.49; and

255 7. Proof that the transportation network company obtained certification from the TNC partner that the
 256 TNC partner secured the consent of each owner, lessor, and lessee of the vehicle for its registration as a TNC
 257 partner vehicle and for its use as a TNC partner vehicle by the TNC partner.

258 A transportation network company shall retain all records required under this subsection for a period of
 259 three years. Such records shall be retained in a manner that permits systematic retrieval and shall be made
 260 available to the Department in a format acceptable to the Commissioner for the purposes of conducting an
 261 audit on no more than an annual basis.

262 B. A transportation network company shall maintain the following records and make them available, in an
 263 acceptable format, on request to the Commissioner, a law-enforcement officer, an official of the Washington
 264 Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, or an airport owner and operator to investigate and resolve a
 265 complaint or respond to an incident:

266 1. Data regarding TNC partner activity while logged into the digital platform, including beginning and
 267 ending times and locations of each prearranged ride;

268 2. Records regarding any actions taken against a TNC partner;

269 3. Contracts or agreements between the transportation network company and its TNC partners;

270 4. Information identifying each TNC partner, including the TNC partner's name, date of birth, and driver's
 271 license number and the state issuing the license; and

272 5. Information identifying each TNC partner vehicle the transportation network company has authorized,
 273 including the vehicle's make, model, model year, vehicle identification number, and license plate number and
 274 the state issuing the license plate.

275 Requests for information pursuant to subdivision 2 or 3 shall be in writing.

276 C. Information obtained by the Department, law-enforcement officers, officials of the Washington
 277 Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, or airport owners and operators pursuant to this section shall be
 278 considered privileged information and shall only be used by the Department, law-enforcement officers,
 279 officials of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, and airport owners and operators for
 280 purposes specified in subsection A or B. Such information shall not be subject to disclosure except on the
 281 written request of the Commissioner, a law-enforcement officer, an official of the Washington Metropolitan
 282 Area Transit Commission, or an airport owner and operator who requires such information for the purposes
 283 specified in subsection A or B.

284 D. Except as provided in subsection C, information obtained by the Department, law-enforcement
 285 officers, officials of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission, or airport owners and operators
 286 pursuant to this section shall not be disclosed to anyone without the transportation network company's
 287 express written permission and shall not be subject to disclosure through a court order or through a
 288 third-party request submitted pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (§ 2.2-3700 et seq.). This
 289 provision shall not be construed to mean that a person is denied the right to seek such information directly
 290 from a transportation network company during a court proceeding.

291 E. Except as required under this section, a transportation network company shall not disclose any personal
 292 information, as defined in § 2.2-3801, about a user of its digital platform unless:

293 1. The transportation network company obtains the user's consent to disclose the personal information;

294 2. The disclosure is necessary to comply with a legal obligation; or

295 3. The disclosure is necessary to protect or defend the terms and conditions for use of the service or to
 296 investigate violations of the terms and conditions.

297 This limitation regarding disclosure does not apply to the disclosure of aggregated user data or to
 298 information about the user that is not personal information as defined in § 2.2-3801.

299 F. A transportation network company shall submit an annual report regarding rides with such
 300 transportation network company to the Commissioner and the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on
 301 Transportation containing the following data regarding the number of:

302 1. Reported cases of assault;

303 2. Reported cases of sexual assault;

304 3. Reported cases of harassment;

305 4. Reported thefts;

306 5. Accidents, including specific numbers of accidents involving vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians;

307 6. *Cases of homicide; and*
308 7. *Reports of discrimination.*

309 **§ 46.2-2099.54. Certain violations; civil penalties.**

310 *Any transportation network company or TNC partner who violates the provisions of §§ 46.2-2099.48 or*
311 *46.2-2099.49, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, is subject to a civil penalty to be assessed*
312 *by the Department of (i) not more than \$250 for a first offense, (ii) not more than \$500 for a second offense,*
313 *and (iii) not more than \$1,000 for a third or subsequent offense.*

314 *Civil penalties collected under this section shall be paid to the Department for the administration of the*
315 *requirements of §§ 46.2-2099.48 and 46.2-2099.49.*