



## MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

S.4280-A (Seward) / A.6090-A (Cahill)

**AN ACT** to amend the insurance law, the vehicle and traffic law, the general municipal law and the transportation law, in relation to transportation network companies

The Capital Region Chamber, representing 2,800 businesses and organizations from throughout the Capital Region that employ more than 150,000 area residents, supports S.4280-A/A.6090-A. This bill would establish, regulate and provide proper insurance for transportation network companies and drivers.

The Capital Region continues to grow as a business and tourist hub, yet reliable transportation options have not kept pace. The Capital Region's taxi services have not provided a level of service that is reliable, courteous, clean, nor that has a regulated system to pay for rides. This is truly unfortunate, given the fact that the region will soon host both the Albany Capital Center Convention Center and the Rivers Casino and Resort in Schenectady. It is imperative that this issue be addressed if the region is to attain successful economic benefits from these and future projects.

S.4280-A/A.6090-A will address the onerous insurance requirements, the major impediment to these Transportation Network Corporations entering New York. The bill also provides for a uniform registration process and a rigorous background check of drivers, as well as other rules and regulations that the companies, commonly known as "Ride-Share" companies, must adhere to in order to operate in New York State. The technology employed by these companies (mobile apps) that allows the customer/rider to control their own transport is currently used in many other destinations. Passage of this legislation will allow the Capital Region to be competitive with these other markets.

It is imperative that the Capital Region provide transportation options that are reliable, courteous, clean and convenient.

For these stated reasons, the Capital Region Chamber recommends the passage of this legislation.