File No. <u>160696</u>

Committee Item No. \_\_\_\_\_ Board Item No. \_35\_\_\_\_\_

# COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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CA State Assembly Bill 650 - As amended June 23, 2016 CA State Assembly Bill 650 - As amended May 27, 2016 Comment Letters

| Prepared by: | John Carroll | Date: | June 24, 2016 |
|--------------|--------------|-------|---------------|
| Prepared by: | · · · · · ·  | Date: | ····          |

#### AMENDED IN BOARD 6/21/16 RESOLUTION NO.

### FILE NO. 160696

[Urging California State Legislators to Amend or Oppose California State Assembly Bill 650 (Low) in Recognition of Negative Impact on Local Transportation Services and Consumer Safety Protection]

Resolution urging California state legislators to amend or oppose California State Assembly Bill 650 (Low) in recognition of negative impacts on local transportation services and consumer safety protection.

WHEREAS, California Government Code, Section 53075.5. (a) provides every city or county shall protect the public health, safety, and welfare by adopting an ordinance or resolution in regard to taxicab transportation service which is operated within the jurisdiction of the city or county; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) regulates taxicab transportation services in the City; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of taxi regulation by the SFMTA is to improve taxi service to the public and to protect the public health and safety while providing such service; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Member Evan Low has introduced Assembly Bill 650 (AB 650), which would repeal California Government Code, Section 53075.5 and take away taxi regulation authority from cities and counties and transfer the authority to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), with the exception of taxicab transportation originating in the City and County of San Francisco or San Francisco International Airport; and

WHEREAS, AB 650 would exempt the City and County of San Francisco and San Francisco International Airport, and remove fair and consistent safety and security requirements, including standardized drug and alcohol testing requirements that should also be imposed on transportation services in other cities and counties; and

Supervisors Peskin; Campos BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WHEREAS, AB 650 would eliminate the ability of cities or counties to regulate taxis according to their perception of the public's needs, priorities and interests; and

WHEREAS, AB 650 also amends California Vehicle Code, Section 21100 to eliminate explicit language granting local entities the authority to regulate motor vehicles for hire, and would also impact their authority to regulate local shuttles; and

WHEREAS, The CPUC would inherit taxi regulation everywhere but San Francisco, has shown itself to be ineffective in regulating charter-party carriers (CPCs), including Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), and lacks the capacity to perform adequate enforcement against violations of the laws and rules governing CPCs; and

WHEREAS, The CPUC, in its regulation of TNCs, has ignored matters of extreme importance to the City and County of San Francisco, and other cities and counties around the State, particularly the provision of transportation service to the people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, AB 650 would remove any limits on the number of taxis which allow unlimited numbers of vehicles to act commercially with no clean air requirement, and ignore environmental and local congestion management goals; and

WHEREAS, AB 650 would result in the de facto deregulation of the taxi industry, which, could negatively impact the quality of taxi service and consumer safety; and

WHEREAS, Further amendments to the bill, or amendments to the Taxi Transportation Services Act in future years could eliminate San Francisco's special status and bring it in line with the rest of the state, to the detriment of the public and the City and County of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, In certain parts of the state, taxi companies and drivers that operate in more than one city are forced to obtain multiple permits and pay multiple fees to provide service across municipal boundaries; and

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WHEREAS, The need for multiple permits can be greatly reduced if not eliminated by providing that counties, rather than cities, shall have the authority to regulate taxi transportation service; and

WHEREAS, Local regulation of taxicab transportation services serves vital interests of the public and of the City and County of San Francisco by, among other regulations, requiring minimum liability insurance coverage of \$1,000,000 providing service to the disabled community through the Paratransit Program, limiting taxi charges by setting maximum rates of fare, and restricting greenhouse gas emissions by taxicab color schemes; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco respectfully urges the California Legislature to amend or oppose AB 650; and, it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit this resolution to the respective offices of the San Francisco Legislative Delegation and City Lobbyists upon final passage.

> Supervisors Peskin; Campos BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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#### AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 23, 2016

#### AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 27, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 14, 2016

#### AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 4, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE-2015-16 REGULAR SESSION

### **ASSEMBLY BILL**

No. 650

#### Introduced by Assembly Member Low

#### February 24, 2015

An act to amend Section 85 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to repeal Sections 53075.5, 53075.6, 53075.61, 53075.7, 53075.8, and 53075.9 of the Government Code, to amend Section 830.7 of the Penal Code, to amend Sections 5353, 5411.5, 5412.2, 5413.5, and 120269 of, and to add Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) to Division 2 of, the Public Utilities Code, and to amend Sections 1808.1, 12523.6, 16500, 21100, 21100.4, and 27908 of the Vehicle Code, relating to transportation.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 650, as amended, Low. Public Utilities Commission: regulation of taxicabs.

Existing law provides for regulation of various types of passenger carriers by the Public Utilities Commission, including passenger stage corporations and charter-party carriers of passengers. Existing law, among other transportation services, provides for regulation of limousines and transportation network companies by the commission as charter-party carriers of passengers. Existing law requires every city

and county to adopt an ordinance to regulate taxicab service within its jurisdiction, and exempts taxicab service from commission regulation.

This bill would enact the Taxicab Transportation Services Act and provide for the statewide regulation of taxicab transportation services by the commission as a matter of statewide concern, commission, except taxicab transportation services originating in the City and County of San Francisco and at the San Francisco International Airport, which would continue to be locally regulated, but would be subject to eertain requirements, including insurance and monitoring of a requirement for taxicab carriers to monitor the driving records of taxicab drivers. The bill would provide for issuance of permits by the commission-in all other areas of elsewhere in the state to taxicab carriers authorizing carriers to operate in one or more of 6 designated regions in the state. operate. The bill would require drivers of taxicabs in those areas to obtain a taxicab driver permit from the commission, and would specify the requirements that an applicant taxicab drivers in commission jurisdiction must meet. The bill would enact various provisions relating to insurance, vehicle inspections, monitoring of taxicab drivers, and other<u>matters</u>: matters relating to taxicab carriers in commission jurisdiction. The bill would exempt fares or fees charged by taxicab carriers from commission regulation, but would authorize the commission to require the disclosure of fares and fees, as specified. The bill would prohibit entities from providing taxicab transportation services in commission jurisdiction without the required permit, and would provide for the commission to investigate and take action against unlicensed activity. The bill would require the commission to adopt a general order pertaining to taxicab carriers, and would authorize peace officers to enforce the provisions of the bill and the general order. The bill would repeal provisions providing for city and county regulation of taxicab services, but would authorize airports to continue to regulate the provision of taxicab transportation services to and from airports. The bill would require cities and counties that license taxicab services as of December 31, 2016, excluding the City and County of San Francisco, to forward to the commission licensure information for each licensee, as specified, and would thereby impose a state-mandated local program. The bill also would make conforming changes to other related provisions.

A violation of the Taxicab Transportation Services Act would be a crime and in certain cases would also be subject to a civil penalty. The bill would also require applications for taxicab carrier permits to be

verified under oath, and would require certain statements by taxicab carriers relative to workers' compensation to be submitted to the commission under penalty of perjury. The bill would thereby impose a state-mandated local program by creating new crimes.

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The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that with regard to certain mandates no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

With regard to any other mandates, this bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs so mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

#### *The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 85 of the Code of Civil Procedure is 2 amended to read:

85. An action or special proceeding shall be treated as a limited civil case if all of the following conditions are satisfied, and, notwithstanding any statute that classifies an action or special proceeding as a limited civil case, an action or special proceeding shall not be treated as a limited civil case unless all of the following conditions are satisfied:

9 (a) The amount in controversy does not exceed twenty-five 10 thousand dollars (\$25,000). As used in this section, "amount in 11 controversy" means the amount of the demand, or the recovery 12 sought, or the value of the property, or the amount of the lien, that 13 is in controversy in the action, exclusive of attorneys' fees, interest, 14 and costs.

15 (b) The relief sought is a type that may be granted in a limited 16 civil case.

(c) The relief sought, whether in the complaint, a
cross-complaint, or otherwise, is exclusively of a type described
in one or more statutes that classify an action or special proceeding
as a limited civil case or that provide that an action or special
proceeding is within the original jurisdiction of the municipal
court, including, but not limited to, the following provisions:

#### **AB 650**

1 (1) Section 798.61 or 798.88 of the Civil Code. 2 (2) Section 1719 of the Civil Code. 3 (3) Section 3342.5 of the Civil Code. 4 (4) Section 86. 5 (5) Section 86.1. 6 (6) Section 1710.20. (7) Section 7581 of the Food and Agricultural Code. 7 8 (8) Section 12647 of the Food and Agricultural Code. 9 (9) Section 27601 of the Food and Agricultural Code. 10 (10) Section 31503 of the Food and Agricultural Code. (11) Section 31621 of the Food and Agricultural Code. 11 12 (12) Section 52514 of the Food and Agricultural Code. 13 (13) Section 53564 of the Food and Agricultural Code. 14 (14) Section 53069.4 of the Government Code. (15) Section 5411.5 of the Public Utilities Code. 15 16(16) Section 5460.12 of the Public Utilities Code. 17 (17) Section 9872.1 of the Vehicle Code. 18 (18) Section 10751 of the Vehicle Code. 19 (19) Section 14607.6 of the Vehicle Code. 20 (20) Section 40230 of the Vehicle Code. 21 (21) Section 40256 of the Vehicle Code. 22 SEC. 2. Section 53075.5 of the Government Code is repealed. 23 SEC. 3. Section 53075.6 of the Government Code is repealed. 24 SEC. 4. Section 53075.61 of the Government Code is repealed. 25 SEC. 5. Section 53075.7 of the Government Code is repealed. 26 SEC. 6. Section 53075.8 of the Government Code is repealed. 27 SEC. 7. Section 53075.9 of the Government Code is repealed. 28 SEC. 8. Section 830.7 of the Penal Code is amended to read: 29 830.7. The following persons are not peace officers but may 30 exercise the powers of arrest of a peace officer as specified in 31 Section 836 during the course and within the scope of their 32 employment, if they successfully complete a course in the exercise 33 of those powers pursuant to Section 832: 34 (a) Persons designated by a cemetery authority pursuant to Section 8325 of the Health and Safety Code. 35 (b) Persons regularly employed as security officers for 36 37 independent institutions of higher education, recognized under

38 subdivision (b) of Section 66010 of the Education Code, if the 39 institution has concluded a memorandum of understanding, 1 permitting the exercise of that authority, with the sheriff or the 2 chief of police within whose jurisdiction the institution lies.

3 (c) Persons regularly employed as security officers for health 4 facilities, as defined in Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code, 5 that are owned and operated by cities, counties, and cities and 6 counties, if the facility has concluded a memorandum of 7 understanding, permitting the exercise of that authority, with the 8 sheriff or the chief of police within whose jurisdiction the facility 9 lies.

(d) Employees or classes of employees of the California
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection designated by the
Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, provided that the primary
duty of the employee shall be the enforcement of the law as that
duty is set forth in Section 4156 of the Public Resources Code.

15 (e) Persons regularly employed as inspectors, supervisors, or 16 security officers for transit districts, as defined in Section 99213 17 of the Public Utilities Code, if the district has concluded a 18 memorandum of understanding permitting the exercise of that 19 authority, with, as applicable, the sheriff, the chief of police, or 20 the Department of the California Highway Patrol within whose 21 jurisdiction the district lies. For the purposes of this subdivision, 22 the exercise of peace officer authority may include the authority 23 to remove a vehicle from a railroad right-of-way as set forth in 24 Section 22656 of the Vehicle Code.

(f) Nonpeace officers regularly employed as county paroleofficers pursuant to Section 3089.

(g) Persons appointed by the Executive Director of the California
Science Center pursuant to Section 4108 of the Food and
Agricultural Code.

30 (h) Persons regularly employed as investigators by the 31 Department of Transportation for the City of Los Angeles and 32 designated by local ordinance as public officers, to the extent 33 necessary to enforce laws related to public transportation, and 34 authorized by a memorandum of understanding with the chief of 35 police, permitting the exercise of that authority. For the purposes 36 of this subdivision, "investigator" means an employee authorized 37 by local ordinance to enforce laws related to public transportation. 38 Transportation investigators authorized by this section shall not be deemed "peace officers" for purposes of Sections 241 and 243. 39

1 (i) Persons regularly employed by any department of the City 2 of Los Angeles who are designated as security officers and 3 authorized by local ordinance to enforce laws related to the 4 preservation of peace in or about the properties owned, controlled, 5 operated, or administered by any department of the City of Los 6 Angeles and authorized by a memorandum of understanding with 7 the Chief of Police of the City of Los Angeles permitting the 8 exercise of that authority. Security officers authorized pursuant to 9 this subdivision shall not be deemed peace officers for purposes 10 of Sections 241 and 243.

11 (j) Illegal dumping enforcement officers or code enforcement 12 officers, to the extent necessary to enforce laws related to illegal 13 waste dumping or littering, and authorized by a memorandum of 14 understanding with, as applicable, the sheriff or chief of police 15 within whose jurisdiction the person is employed, permitting the exercise of that authority. An "illegal dumping enforcement officer 16 17 or code enforcement officer" is defined, for purposes of this 18 section, as a person employed full time, part time, or as a volunteer 19 after completing training prescribed by law, by a city, county, or 20 city and county, whose duties include illegal dumping enforcement 21 and who is designated by local ordinance as a public officer. An 22 illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement officer 23 may also be a person who is not regularly employed by a city, 24 county, or city and county, but who has met all training 25 requirements and is directly supervised by a regularly employed 26 illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement officer. 27 conducting illegal dumping enforcement. This person shall not 28 have the power of arrest or access to summary criminal history 29 information pursuant to this section. No person may be appointed 30 as an illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement 31 officer if that person is disqualified pursuant to the criteria set forth 32 in Section 1029 of the Government Code. Persons regularly 33 employed by a city, county, or city and county designated pursuant 34 to this subdivision may be furnished state summary criminal history 35 information upon a showing of compelling need pursuant to 36 subdivision (c) of Section 11105.

37 SEC. 9. Section 5353 of the Public Utilities Code is amended38 to read:

39 5353. This chapter does not apply to any of the following:

(a) Transportation service rendered wholly within the corporate
 limits of a single city or city and county and licensed or regulated
 by ordinance.

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4 (b) Transportation of school pupils conducted by or under 5 contract with the governing board of any school district entered 6 into pursuant to the Education Code.

7 (c) Common carrier transportation services between fixed
8 termini or over a regular route that are subject to authorization
9 pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 1031) of Chapter
10 5 of Part 1 of Division 1.

11 (d) Transportation services occasionally afforded for farm 12 employees moving to and from farms on which employed when the transportation is performed by the employer in an owned or 13 14 leased vehicle, or by a nonprofit agricultural cooperative 15 association organized and acting within the scope of its powers under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 54001) of Division 16 17 20 of the Food and Agricultural Code, and without any requirement 18 for the payment of compensation therefor by the employees.

(e) Transportation service rendered by a publicly owned transitsystem.

(f) Passenger vehicles carrying passengers on a noncommercialenterprise basis.

(g) Taxicab transportation services subject to regulation pursuant
 to Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) or exempt from
 regulation under that chapter pursuant to Section 5451.3.

26 (h) Transportation of persons between home and work locations 27 or of persons having a common work-related trip purpose in a vehicle having a seating capacity of 15 passengers or less, including 28 29 the driver, which are used for the purpose of ridesharing, as defined 30 in Section 522 of the Vehicle Code, when the ridesharing is 31 incidental to another purpose of the driver. This exemption also 32 applies to a vehicle having a seating capacity of more than 15 33 passengers if the driver files with the commission evidence of 34 liability insurance protection in the same amount and in the same 35 manner as required for a passenger stage corporation, and the 36 vehicle undergoes and passes an annual safety inspection by the 37 Department of the California Highway Patrol. The insurance filing 38 shall be accompanied by a one-time filing fee of seventy-five 39 dollars (\$75). This exemption does not apply if the primary purpose 40 for the transportation of those persons is to make a profit. "Profit,"

1 as used in this subdivision, does not include the recovery of the 2 actual costs incurred in owning and operating a vanpool vehicle,

3 as defined in Section 668 of the Vehicle Code.

4 (i) Vehicles used exclusively to provide medical transportation,
5 including vehicles employed to transport developmentally disabled
6 persons for regional centers established pursuant to Chapter 5
7 (commencing with Section 4620) of Division 4.5 of the Welfare
8 and Institutions Code.

9 (j) Transportation services rendered solely within the Lake 10 Tahoe Basin, comprising that area included within the Tahoe 11 Regional Planning Compact as set forth in Section 66801 of the 12 Government Code, when the operator of the services has obtained 13 any permit required from the Tahoe Basin Transportation Authority 14 or the City of South Lake Tahoe, or both.

15 (k) Subject to Section 34507.6 of the Vehicle Code, 16 transportation service provided by the operator of an automobile 17 rental business in vehicles owned or leased by that operator, 18 without charge other than as may be included in the automobile 19 rental charges, to carry its customers to or from its office or facility 20 where rental vehicles are furnished or returned after the rental 21 period.

(1) Subject to Section 34507.6 of the Vehicle Code, 22 23 transportation service provided by the operator of a hotel, motel, 24 or other place of temporary lodging in vehicles owned or leased 25 by that operator, without charge other than as may be included in 26 the charges for lodging, between the lodging facility and an air, 27 rail, water, or bus passenger terminal or between the lodging 28 facility and any place of entertainment or commercial attraction, 29 including, but not limited to, facilities providing snow skiing. Nothing in this subdivision authorizes the operator of a hotel, 30 31 motel, or other place of temporary lodging to provide any round 32 trip sightseeing service without a permit, as required by subdivision 33 (c) of Section 5384.

34 (m) (1) Transportation of hot air balloon ride passengers in a
35 balloon chase vehicle from the balloon landing site back to the
36 original takeoff site, provided that the balloon ride was conducted
37 by a balloonist who meets all of the following conditions:

38 (A) Does not fly more than a total of 30 passenger rides for39 compensation annually.

1 (B) Does not provide any preflight ground transportation 2 services in their vehicles.

3 (C) In providing return transportation to the launch site from 4 landing does not drive more than 300 miles annually.

5 (D) Files with the commission an exemption declaration and 6 proof of vehicle insurance, as prescribed by the commission, 7 certifying that the operator qualifies for the exemption and will 8 maintain minimum insurance on each vehicle of one hundred 9 thousand dollars (\$100,000) for injury or death of one person, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for injury or death of two or 10 more persons and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for 11 12 damage to property.

(2) Nothing in this subdivision authorizes the operator of a
commercial balloon operation to provide any round trip sightseeing
service without a permit, as required by subdivision (c) of Section
5384.

(n) (1) Transportation services incidental to operation of a youth
camp that are provided by either a nonprofit organization that
qualifies for tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
Revenue Code or an organization that operates an organized camp,
as defined in Section 18897 of the Health and Safety Code, serving
youth 18 years of age or younger.

(2) Any transportation service described in paragraph (1) shall
 comply with all of the following requirements:

(A) Register as a private carrier with the commission pursuantto Section 4005.

(B) Participate in a pull notice system for employers of drivers
as prescribed in Section 1808.1 of the Vehicle Code.

(C) Ensure compliance with the annual bus terminal inspection
 required by subdivision (c) of Section 34501 of the Vehicle Code.

31 (D) Obtain the following minimum amounts of general liability 32 insurance coverage for vehicles that are used to transport youth:

(i) A minimum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)
general liability insurance coverage for passenger vehicles designed
to carry up to eight passengers. For organized camps, as defined
in Section 18897 of the Health and Safety Code, an additional two
hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) general umbrella policy
that covers vehicles.

(ii) A minimum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) general
liability insurance coverage for vehicles designed to carry up to

1 15 passengers. For organized camps, as defined in Section 18897
 2 of the Health and Safety Code, an additional five hundred thousand

3 dollars (\$500,000) general umbrella policy that covers vehicles.

4 (iii) A minimum of one million five hundred thousand dollars 5 (\$1,500,000) general liability insurance coverage for vehicles 6 designed to carry more than 15 passengers, and an additional three 7 million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) general 8 umbrella liability insurance policy that covers vehicles.

9 SEC. 10. Section 5411.5 of the Public Utilities Code is 10 amended to read:

5411.5. (a) Whenever a peace officer, as defined in Chapter
4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal
Code, arrests a person for operation of a charter-party carrier of
passengers without a valid certificate or permit, the peace officer
may impound and retain possession of the vehicle.

16 (b) Whenever a peace officer, as defined in Chapter 4.5 17 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal 18 Code, arrests a person for operating a charter-party carrier of 19 passengers as a taxicab in violation of Chapter 8.5 (commencing 20 with Section 5451) or in violation of a local ordinance of the City 21 and County of San Francisco or its airport authority, the peace 22 officer may impound and retain possession of the vehicle.

(c) If the vehicle is seized from a person who is not the owner
of the vehicle, the impounding authority shall immediately give
notice to the owner by first-class mail.

26 (d) The vehicle shall immediately be returned to the owner if 27 the infraction or violation is not prosecuted or is dismissed, the owner is found not guilty of the offense, or it is determined that 28 29 the vehicle was used in violation of Section 5411 without the 30 knowledge and consent of the owner. The vehicle shall be returned 31 to the owner upon payment of any fine ordered by the court. If the 32 vehicle is seized due to a violation of a person other than the owner 33 of the vehicle, the vehicle shall be returned to the owner after all 34 impoundment fees are paid. After the expiration of six weeks from 35 the final disposition of the criminal case, unless the owner is in the process of making payments to the court, the impounding 36 37 authority may deal with the vehicle as lost or abandoned property 38 under Section 1411 of the Penal Code.

39 (e) At any time, a person may make a motion in superior court40 for the immediate return of the vehicle on the ground that there

was no probable cause to seize it or that there is some other good
 cause, as determined by the court, for the return of the vehicle. A
 proceeding under this section is a limited civil case.

4 (f) No peace officer, however, may impound any vehicle owned 5 or operated by a nonprofit organization exempt from taxation 6 pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which 7 serves youth or senior citizens and provides transportation 8 incidental to its programs or services or a rented motor vehicle 9 that is being operated by a hired driver of a charter-party carrier 10 of passengers that is providing hired driver service.

11 SEC. 11. Section 5412.2 of the Public Utilities Code is 12 amended to read:

5412.2. (a) When a person is convicted of the offense of 13 14 operating a taxicab without a valid permit required pursuant to 15 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) or pursuant to a local 16 ordinance of the City and County of San Francisco or its airport 17 authority, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, if the 18 court determines the operator has the ability to pay, the court shall 19 impose a mandatory fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred 20 dollars (\$2,500) for a first conviction or five thousand dollars 21 (\$5,000) for a subsequent conviction.

(b) When a person is convicted of the offense of operating a
charter-party carrier of passengers without a valid certificate or
permit, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, if the
court determines the operator has the ability to pay, the court shall
impose a mandatory fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars
(\$10,000) for a first conviction or twenty-five thousand dollars
(\$25,000) for a subsequent conviction.

(c) As used in this section, "taxicab" shall have the meaning as
defined in subdivision (d) of Section 5451.4. "Taxicab" shall not
include a charter-party carrier of passengers within the meaning
of this chapter.

33 SEC. 12. Section 5413.5 of the Public Utilities Code is 34 amended to read:

35 5413.5. (a) Whenever the commission, after hearing, finds 36 that any person or corporation is operating as a charter-party carrier 37 of passengers, including a charter-party carrier operating a 38 limousine, without a valid certificate or permit, or fails to include 39 in any written or oral advertisement the number of the certificate 40 or permit required by Section 5386, the commission may impose

a fine of not more than seven thousand five hundred dollars 1 2 (\$7,500) for each violation. The commission may assess the person 3 or corporation an amount sufficient to cover the reasonable expense 4 of investigation incurred by the commission. The commission may 5 assess interest on any fine or assessment imposed, to commence 6 on the day the payment of the fine or assessment becomes 7 delinquent. All fines, assessments, and interest collected shall be 8 deposited at least once each month in the General Fund. 9

(b) Whenever the commission, after hearing, finds that any 10 person or corporation is operating a charter-party carrier of passengers as a taxicab without a valid permit in violation of 11 12 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) or a local ordinance 13 of the City and County of San Francisco or its airport authority, 14 the commission may impose a fine of not more than five thousand 15 dollars (\$5,000) for each violation. The commission may assess 16 the person or corporation an amount sufficient to cover the reasonable expense of investigation incurred by the commission. 17 18 The commission may assess interest on any fine or assessment 19 imposed, to commence on the day the payment of the fine or 20 assessment becomes delinquent. All fines, assessments, and interest 21 collected shall be deposited at least once each month in the General 22 Fund.

SEC. 13. Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) is added
to Division 2 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:

Chapter 8.5. Taxicab Transportation Services Act

26 27

25

28 29 Article 1. General Provisions and Definitions

30 5451. This chapter shall be known, and may be cited, as the31 Taxicab Transportation Services Act.

5451.1. The commission may delegate to its executive director
 or designee of the executive director the authority to issue, renew,

or authorize the transfer of taxicab carrier permits under thischapter and to otherwise implement this chapter.

36 5451.2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except

as otherwise provided in Section 5451.3, this chapter shall apply
to taxicab transportation services provided throughout the state.
The commission shall regulate taxicab transportation services and

40 enforce the requirements of this chapter, and may adopt regulations

to further the objectives of this chapter. The Legislature finds and
 declares that regulation of taxicab transportation services

3 throughout the state constitutes a matter of statewide concern.

4 5451.3. This chapter shall not apply to taxicab transportation 5 services originating in the jurisdiction of the City and County of 6 San Francisco or at the San Francisco International Airport, 7 including taxicab carriers and taxicab drivers associated with those 8 services. Those taxicab transportation services shall remain under 9 the regulation of the City and County of San Francisco or its airport 10 authority, as the case may be.

11 5451.4. For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms12 have the following meanings:

(a) "Entity" includes a corporation, company, association, joint
stock association, firm, partnership, individual, or any other form
of business organization.

16 (b) "Public highway" includes every public street, road, or 17 highway in this state.

18 (c) "Motor vehicle" means a vehicle used on public highways19 that is self-propelled.

(d) "Taxicab" means a passenger motor vehicle designed for
carrying not more than eight passengers, excluding the driver, and
used to carry passengers for hire as part of taxicab transportation
services.

(e) "Taxicab carrier" means an entity that is a permitted provider
of taxicab transportation services to passengers under this chapter.
(f) "Taxicab driver" means an individual who is a permitted *licensed* driver of a taxicab under this chapter.

(g) "Taxicab transportation services" means the provision of
transportation services for compensation using motor vehicles
designed for carrying not more than eight passengers, excluding
the driver, and that are permitted to serve passengers via street
hail, including curbside pickups, but excludes transportation
services provided by a charter-party carrier of passengers regulated
by Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 5351).

(h) With respect to a motor vehicle used in taxicab transportation
services by a taxicab carrier, "owner" means the entity that is
registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles as the owner of
the motor vehicle, or that has a legal right to possession of the
motor vehicle pursuant to a lease or rental agreement.

| 1  | (i) "Region" means one of the regions identified pursuant to           |  |  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2  | Section 5451.6.  |  |  |  |  |
| 3  | 5451.6. The commission shall issue permits pursuant to this            |  |  |  |  |
| 4  | chapter authorizing taxicab carriers to operate in one or more of      |  |  |  |  |
| 5  | the following regions: operate.  |  |  |  |  |
| 6  | (a) Region 1 shall include the Counties of Del Norte, Siskiyou,        |  |  |  |  |
| 7  | Modoe, Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Mendoeino, Tehama,           |  |  |  |  |
| 8  | Plumas, Glenn, Butte, Lake, Colusa, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Yolo,        |  |  |  |  |
| 9  | Sutter, Placer, Sacramento, and El Dorado.                             |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | (b) Region 2 shall include the Counties of Sonoma, Napa, Marin,        |  |  |  |  |
| 11 | Solano, Contra Costa, San Matco, Alameda, and Santa Clara.             |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | Region 2 shall exclude taxicab transportation services originating     |  |  |  |  |
| 13 | at the San Francisco International Airport in the County of San        |  |  |  |  |
| 14 | Matco.   |  |  |  |  |
| 15 | (c) Region 3 shall include the Counties of San Joaquin, Amador,        |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | Alpine, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mono, Merced,                 |  |  |  |  |
| 17 | Mariposa, San Benito, Madera, Fresno, Inyo, Kings, Tulare, and         |  |  |  |  |
| 18 | Kern.  |  |  |  |  |
| 19 | (d) Region 4 shall include the Counties of Santa Cruz, Montercy;       |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.                           |  |  |  |  |
| 21 | (c) Region 5 shall include the Counties of Los Angeles, San            |  |  |  |  |
| 22 | Bernardino, Orange, and Riverside:                                     |  |  |  |  |
| 23 | (f) Region 6 shall include the Counties of San Diego and               |  |  |  |  |
| 24 | Imperial.  |  |  |  |  |
| 25 | 5451.7. A taxicab carrier regulated by the City and County of          |  |  |  |  |
| 26 | San Francisco or its airport authority and not subject to regulation   |  |  |  |  |
| 27 | by the commission shall not be authorized to apply for a permit to     |  |  |  |  |
| 28 | operate taxicab transportation services originating within any of      |  |  |  |  |
| 29 | the regions regulated by the commission pursuant to Section            |  |  |  |  |
| 30 | <del>5451.6.</del>   |  |  |  |  |
| 31 | · · ·  |  |  |  |  |
| 32 | Article 2. Authorization to Operate as a Taxicab Carrier               |  |  |  |  |
| 33 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 34 | 5452. An entity shall not engage in taxicab transportation             |  |  |  |  |
| 35 | services subject to regulation under this chapter without first having |  |  |  |  |
| 36 | obtained a taxicab carrier permit issued by the commission pursuant    |  |  |  |  |
| 37 | to this chapter.   |  |  |  |  |
| 38 | 5452.2. The commission shall issue permits to entities to              |  |  |  |  |
| 39 | operate taxicab transportation services as a taxicab carrier if        |  |  |  |  |
| 40 | otherwise qualified under this chapter. Each permit shall specify      |  |  |  |  |

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the region of the state in which the taxicab carrier is authorized to
 operate: Nothing in this chapter shall preclude a taxicab carrier

3 from holding permits to operate in multiple regions.

4 5452.4. A taxicab carrier holding a permit for a region shall 5 not be restricted as to point of origin or destination within that 6 region.

7 5452.6. A taxicab carrier shall include the number of its permit 8 in every written, oral, or electronic advertisement of the services 9 it offers and shall comply with the signing requirements of Section 27908 of the Vehicle Code. For the purposes of this section, 10 "advertisement" includes, but is not limited to, the issuance of any 11 12 card, sign, or device to any person, the causing, permitting, or 13 allowing of the placement of any sign or marking on or in any building or structure, or in any media form, including newspaper, 14 15 magazine, radiowave, satellite signal, or any electronic transmission, or in any directory soliciting taxicab transportation 16 17 services subject to this chapter.

18 5452.8. (a) Applications for taxicab carrier permits shall be
19 in writing and verified under oath, and shall be in the form and
20 contain the information required by the commission.

21 (b) An application for a taxicab carrier permit shall be 22 accompanied by a filing fee as follows:

23 (1) Permits (new): dollars (\$

24 (2) Permits (renewal): dollars (\$).

5452.10. (a) (1) Before a permit is issued or renewed, the commission shall require the applicant to establish reasonable fitness and financial responsibility to initiate and conduct or continue to conduct the proposed or existing taxicab transportation services. The commission shall not issue or renew a permit pursuant to this chapter unless the applicant meets all of the following requirements:

(A) It is financially and organizationally capable of conducting
an operation that complies with the rules and regulations of the
Department of the California Highway Patrol relating to the safe
operation of vehicles on the public highways.

36 (B) It is committed to observing the hours of service regulations

of state and, where applicable, federal law for all taxicab drivers,whether employees or contractors.

1 (C) It has an inspection program in effect for its motor vehicles 2 used to provide taxicab transportation services that conforms to 2 Article 8 (community print) Section 5458)

3 Article 8 (commencing with Section 5458).

4 (D) It participates in the pull notice program pursuant to Section 5 1808.1 of the Vehicle Code to regularly check the driving records 6 of all taxicab drivers, whether employees or contractors.

7 (E) It has a safety education and training program in effect for 8 all taxicab drivers, whether employees or contractors.

9 (F) It will maintain its motor vehicles used in taxicab 10 transportation services in a safe operating condition and in 11 compliance with the Vehicle Code and with regulations contained 12 in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations relative to motor 13 vehicle safety.

(G) It has provided to the commission an address of an office
or terminal where documents supporting the factual matters
specified in the showing required by this subdivision may be
inspected by the commission or the Department of the California
Highway Patrol.

(H) It provides for a mandatory controlled substance and alcohol
testing certification program pursuant to Section-5457.22. 5457.4.

(2) With respect to subparagraphs (B) and (F) of paragraph (1),
the commission may base a finding on a certification by the
commission that an applicant has filed, with the commission, a
sworn declaration of ability to comply and intent to comply.

(b) The commission, as a precondition to the issuance of a
permit under this article, may require the procurement of a
performance bond by the applicant sufficient to facilitate the
collection of fines, penalties, and restitution related to enforcement
actions that may be taken against the applicant.

30 <del>(b)</del>

31 (c) In addition to the requirements in subdivision (a), taxicab
 32 carriers shall meet all other state and, where applicable, federal
 33 regulations as prescribed.

34 5452.12. (a) Every taxicab carrier shall furnish to the 35 commission a list, prepared under oath, of all motor vehicles used 36 by the carrier in taxicab transportation services during the period 37 since the last inspection. The commission shall furnish a copy of 38 the list to the taxicab carrier's insurer, if the taxicab carrier's 39 accident liability protection is provided by a policy of insurance. 40 *insurer*.

1 (b) If the taxicab carrier's insurer informs the commission that 2 the carrier has failed to obtain insurance coverage for any vehicle 3 reported on the list, the commission may, in addition to any other 4 penalty provided in this chapter, for a first occurrence, suspend 5 the carrier's permit or impose a fine, or both, and, for a second or 6 subsequent occurrence, suspend or revoke the permit or impose a 7 fine, or both.

5452.14. The commission may, with or without hearing, issue
a permit under this chapter. If the commission finds that the
applicant possesses satisfactory fitness and financial responsibility
to initiate and conduct the proposed taxicab transportation services,
and will faithfully comply with the rules and regulations adopted
by the commission with respect thereto, it shall issue the permit.
5452.16. A permit, or renewal thereof, is effective for three

15 years, unless suspended or revoked by the commission.

5452.18. No permit issued pursuant to this chapter, or rights
to conduct any of the services authorized by the permit, shall be
sold, leased, or assigned, or otherwise transferred or encumbered,
unless authorized by the commission. A filing fee of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars
(\$\_\_\_\_) shall accompany all applications for that authorization.

21 22 23

#### Article 3. Enforcement

24 5453. Upon receipt of a complaint containing sufficient 25 information to warrant conducting an investigation, the commission 26 shall investigate any entity that advertises or holds itself out as 27 providing services that may be reasonably considered to be taxicab 28 transportation services but that does not have a permit required by 29 this chapter. The commission, in a rulemaking or other appropriate 30 procedure, shall adopt criteria that establish the type of information, 31 if contained in a complaint, that is sufficient to warrant an 32 investigation. Pursuant to this investigation, the commission shall 33 do all of the following:

(a) Determine which entities, if any, are required to obtain a
taxicab carrier permit pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with
Section 5452) but that do not have the required permit.

(b) Inform any entity identified in subdivision (a) that the failureto obtain a permit is in violation of the law.

1 (c) Within 60 days of informing the entity pursuant to 2 subdivision (b), institute civil or criminal proceedings, or both, if 3 the entity continues to be in noncompliance with this chapter.

4 5453.2. The commission shall not issue, renew, or authorize 5 the transfer of a taxicab carrier permit under this chapter to any 6 entity against whom a final judgment has been entered and whose 7 name has been transmitted to the commission pursuant to Section 8 3716.4 of the Labor Code, unless that judgment has been satisfied 9 or has been discharged in accordance with the bankruptcy laws of 10 the United States.

5453.4. (a) The commission may cancel, suspend, or revoke
a taxicab carrier permit issued pursuant to this chapter upon any
of the following grounds:

(1) The violation by the permitholder of any of the provisions
of this chapter, or of the terms of a permit issued under this chapter.
(2) The violation by the permitholder of any order, decision,
rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the
commission pursuant to this chapter.

(3) The conviction of a taxicab carrier of any misdemeanor under this chapter while holding a taxicab carrier permit issued by the commission or the conviction of the carrier or its officers of a felony while holding a permit issued by the commission, limited to robbery, burglary, larceny, fraud, or intentional dishonesty for personal gain.

(4) The rendition of a judgment against the taxicab carrier forany penalty imposed under this chapter.

(5) The failure of a taxicab carrier to pay any fee imposed onthe carrier within the time required by the commission.

29 (6) On request of the taxicab carrier.

(7) The failure of a taxicab carrier to operate and perform
reasonable service. That failure may include repeated violations
of the Vehicle Code or of regulations contained in Title 13 of the
California Code of Regulations relative to motor vehicle safety by
employees of the taxicab carrier that support an inference of unsafe
operation or willful neglect of the public safety by the carrier.

(8) Consistent failure of the taxicab carrier to maintain its
vehicles in a safe operating condition pursuant to Article 8
(commencing with Section 5458) and in compliance with the
Vehicle Code and with regulations contained in Title 13 of the
California Code of Regulations relative to motor vehicle safety,

as shown by the records of the commission, the Department of
 Motor Vehicles, the Department of the California Highway Patrol,
 or the carrier.

4 (9) Failure of a taxicab carrier, or of any of its employees, to
5 follow any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand,
6 ordinance, or other requirement established by the governing body
7 of an airport, including solicitation practices, providing the
8 requirements are consistent with subdivision (b) of Section 5459.
9 (b) The commission may levy a civil penalty of up to seven

thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) upon a taxicab carrier for 10 any of the violations specified in subdivision (a), as an alternative 11 to canceling, revoking, or suspending the carrier's permit. The 12 commission may also levy interest upon the civil penalty, which 13 shall be calculated as of the date on which the civil penalty is 14 unpaid and delinquent. The commission shall deposit at least 15 monthly all civil penalties and interest collected pursuant to this 16 section into the General Fund. 17

18 5453.6. (a) A taxicab carrier shall have and shall make19 available for inspection by the commission, upon request, one of20 the following:

(1) A certificate of workers' compensation coverage for itsemployees issued by an admitted insurer.

23 (2) A certification of consent to self-insure issued by the Director24 of Industrial Relations.

(3) A statement under penalty of perjury, stating that, in its
operations as a taxicab carrier, it does not employ any person in
any manner so as to become subject to the workers' compensation
laws of this state.

(b) The workers' compensation coverage certified to under
paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be in the form of a policy
that remains effective until canceled. Cancellation of the policy
shall require 30 days' advance notice.

(c) If, after filing the statement described in paragraph (3) of
subdivision (a), the carrier becomes subject to the workers'
compensation laws of this state, the carrier shall promptly notify
the commission that the carrier is withdrawing its statement under
paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), and shall simultaneously file the
certificate described in either paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision
(a).

1 5453.7. (a) The commission may at any time have access to 2 the land, buildings, or equipment of a taxicab carrier in connection 3 with the operation of the carrier's business and may inspect the 4 accounts, books, papers, and documents of the carrier. Any 5 inspection by the commission may include reproduction of 6 documents either at the premises of the carrier or the offices of 7 the commission, at the option of the carrier. The commission shall 8 reimburse the carrier for any reproduction expenses incurred by 9 the carrier at the direction of the commission.

10 (b) Subdivision (a) also applies to access to property and 11 inspections of accounts, books, papers, and documents of any entity 12 that is a subsidiary or affiliate of, or that holds a controlling 13 interest in, a taxicab carrier with respect to any transaction 14 between the carrier and the other entity.

(c) Subdivisions (a) and (b) also apply to any entity engaged in
the transportation of persons by motor vehicle for compensation
upon a determination by the commission that the entity is
advertising or holding itself out as providing services that may
reasonably be considered to be taxicab transportation services.

5453.8. The commission may, on a complaint alleging that an entity is operating taxicab transportation services without a valid taxicab carrier permit in violation of this chapter, or on its own motion without a complaint, with or without notice of a hearing, order the entity so operating to cease and desist from that operation until the commission makes and files its decision in the matter or until further order of the commission.

27 5453.10. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that 28 advertising and use of telephone service is essential for a an entity 29 providing taxicab transportation services to obtain business. 30 Unlawful advertisements by unlicensed taxicabs have resulted in 31 properly-permitted taxicab carriers competing with unlicensed 32 taxicabs using unfair business practices. Unlicensed taxicabs have also exposed residents of the state to unscrupulous persons who 33 34 portray themselves as properly licensed, qualified, and insured 35 taxicabs. Many of these unlicensed taxicabs have been found to have operated their vehicles without insurance, or in an unsafe 36 37 manner, placing residents of the state at risk.

(b) (1) The Legislature further finds and declares that the
termination of telephone service utilized by unlicensed taxicabs is
essential to ensure the public safety and welfare. Therefore, the

commission should take enforcement action as specified in this 1 2 section to disconnect telephone service of entities operating 3 unlicensed taxicab transportation services who unlawfully advertise 4 passenger transportation services in yellow page directories and 5 other publications. The enforcement actions provided for by this 6 section are consistent with the decision of the California Supreme 7 Court in Goldin v. Public Utilities Commission (1979) 23 Cal. 3d 8 638.

9 (2) For purposes of this section, a telephone corporation or 10 telegraph corporation, or a corporation that holds a controlling 11 interest in the telephone or telegraph corporation, or any business 12 that is a subsidiary or affiliate of the telephone or telegraph 13 corporation, that has the name and address of the subscriber to a 14 telephone number being used by an unlicensed operator of taxicab 15 transportation services shall provide the commission, upon the 16 order of a magistrate and the demand of the commission, access 17 to this information. A magistrate may only issue an order for the 18 purposes of this subdivision if the magistrate has made the findings 19 required by subdivision (c).

20 (c) A telephone or telegraph corporation shall refuse telephone 21 service to a new subscriber and shall disconnect telephone service 22 of an existing subscriber under this section only after it is shown 23 that other available enforcement remedies of the commission have 24 failed to terminate unlawful activities detrimental to the public 25 welfare and safety, and upon receipt from the commission of a 26 writing, signed by a magistrate, as defined by Sections 807 and 27 808 of the Penal Code, finding that probable cause exists to believe 28 that the subscriber is advertising, or holding itself out to the public 29 to perform, taxicab transportation services without a permit of the 30 commission, or that the telephone service otherwise is being used 31 or is to be used as an instrumentality, directly or indirectly, to 32 violate or assist in violation of the laws requiring a taxicab carrier 33 to have a permit from the commission. Included in the writing of 34 the magistrate shall be a finding that there is probable cause to 35 believe that the applicable telephone facilities have been, or are 36 to be, used in the commission or facilitation of holding out to the 37 public to perform or in performing taxicab transportation services 38 in violation of this chapter and that, in the absence of immediate 39 and summary action, a danger to the public welfare and safety 40 will result.

(d) Any person aggrieved by any action taken pursuant to this 1 2 section shall have the right to file a complaint with the commission and may include in the complaint a request for interim relief. The 3 4 commission shall schedule a public hearing on the complaint to be held within 21 calendar days of the filing and assignment of a 5 6 docket number to the complaint. The remedy provided by this 7 section shall be exclusive. No other action at law or in equity shall 8 accrue against any telephone or telegraph corporation because 9 of, or as a result of, any matter or thing done or threatened to be done pursuant to this section. 10

11 (e) At any hearing held on a complaint filed with the commission pursuant to subdivision (d), the commission staff shall have the 12 13 right to participate, including the right to present evidence and 14 argument and to present and cross-examine witnesses. The 15 commission staff shall have both the burden of proving that the use made or to be made of the telephone service is to hold out to 16 the public to perform, or to assist in performing, taxicab 17 18 transportation services, or that the telephone service is being or 19 is to be used as an instrumentality, directly or indirectly, to violate or to assist in violation of the permitting requirements applicable 20 to taxicab carriers and that the character of the acts are such that, 21 22 absent immediate and summary action, a danger to public welfare or safety will result, and the burden of persuading the commission 23 that the telephone services should be refused or should not be 24 25 restored.

26 (f) The telephone or telegraph corporation, immediately upon 27 refusal or disconnection of service in accordance with subdivision 28 (c), shall notify the subscriber in writing that the refusal or 29 disconnection of telephone service has been made pursuant to a 30 request of the commission and the writing of a magistrate, and 31 shall include with the notice a copy of this section, a copy of the 32 writing of the magistrate, and a statement that the customer or 33 subscriber may request information from the commission at its 34 San Francisco or Los Angeles office concerning any provision of 35 this section and the manner in which a complaint may be filed. (g) The provisions of this section are an implied term of every 36

37 contract for telephone service. The provisions of this section are
38 a part of any application for telephone service. Applicants for,
39 and subscribers and customers of, telephone service have, as a

matter of law, consented to the provisions of this section as a
 consideration for the furnishing of the telephone service.

3 (h) As used in this section, the terms "person," "customer," 4 and "subscriber" include a subscriber to telephone service, any 5 person using the telephone service of a subscriber, an applicant 6 for telephone service, a corporation, as defined in Section 204, a 7 "person" as defined in Section 205, a limited liability company, 8 a partnership, an association, and includes their lessees and 9 assigns.

10 *(i) (1) As used in this section, "telephone corporation" is* 11 *defined as provided in Section 234.* 

12 (2) As used in this section, "telegraph corporation" is defined 13 as provided in Section 236.

(j) As used in this section, "commission" includes the employees
of the commission as provided in Section 5451.1, unless the context
otherwise requires.

5453.12. In order to facilitate enforcement by peace officers
of taxicab laws pursuant to this chapter and associated regulations
adopted by the commission, both of the following shall apply:

20 (a) The commission shall adopt a general order containing its 21 rules pertaining to taxicab carriers.

22 (b) Peace officers may enforce this chapter and the 23 commission's rules in the general order pertaining to taxicab 24 carriers.

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#### Article 4. Trade Dress

28 5454. A taxicab carrier subject to regulation under this chapter 29 shall not operate a motor vehicle on a public highway unless there 30 is displayed on the vehicle a distinctive identifying symbol in the 31 form prescribed by the commission. The identifying symbol shall 32 not be displayed on any vehicle until a permit under this chapter 33 has been issued to the carrier.

5454.2. The commission shall assign both trade name and trade dress-within each region for taxicab transportation services. In doing so, the commission shall take into account taxicab carriers operating-within each region on December 31, 2016, and shall minimize public confusion to consumers of taxicab transportation services in awarding trade name and trade dress in each region. The commission may assign the same or similar trade name and

1 trade dress in different regions of the state in a manner-that

2 minimizes public confusion to consumers of taxicab transportation
 3 services. dress.

4 5454.4. A taxicab carrier shall remove all markings required 5 by the commission from a motor vehicle when the motor vehicle 6 is permanently withdrawn from service as a taxicab.

5454.6. The commission shall award initial trade name and
trade dress in each region as soon as practicable on or after January
1, 2017. In doing so, the commission shall consider all of the

10 following:

(a) Historic trade name and trade dress granted to licensees by
cities, counties, cities and counties, or any subdivision thereof as
submitted to the commission pursuant to Section 5454.8.

14 (b) The geographic service boundaries of the provision of 15 taxicab services before January 1, 2017.

16 (c) The cost to taxicab carriers of changing trade name or trade 17 dress in accordance with the commission's order.

18 5454.8. Any city or county, or any subdivision thereof, that 19 regulates or oversees the licensure of taxicab transportation services 20 within its jurisdiction on December 31, 2016, shall forward to the 21 commission licensure information for each taxicab transportation 22 service licensee within its jurisdiction. This section shall not apply to the taxicab transportation services exempted from this chapter 23 24 pursuant to Section 5451.3. The information shall include, but 25 need not be limited to, the following:

26 (a) The name of the licensee, including the approved "doing27 business as" name granted to a licensee.

(b) Information related to trade dress or exterior markingsgranted to each licensee within the jurisdiction.

30 (c) The geographical boundaries, if any, granted to a licensee31 in the provision of taxicab transportation services.

32 (d) Any other information the commission may require to carry33 out the purposes of this chapter.

5454.10. The commission may adopt an alternate process for
 awarding trade name and trade dress within each region subsequent
 to the initial award outlined in Section 5454.2, provided that the
 alternate process shall seek to minimize public confusion to

38 consumers of taxicab transportation services in each region.

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#### Article 5. Insurance

2 3 5455. The commission, in granting a permit to a taxicab carrier 4 pursuant to this chapter, shall require the taxicab carrier to procure, 5 and to continue in effect during the life of the permit, protection 6 insurance against liability imposed by law upon the taxicab carrier 7 for the payment of damages for personal bodily injuries, including 8 death resulting therefrom, protection insurance against a total 9 liability of the taxicab carrier on account of bodily injuries to, or death of, more than one person as a result of any one accident, and 10 11 protection insurance against damage or destruction of property. The-maximum insurance requirements for these assurances of 12 13 protection against liability shall be satisfied through commercial 14 liability insurance coverage applicable 24 hours per day and seven days per week that is no-more less than one hundred thousand 15 dollars (\$100,000) for death and personal injury per person, three 16 hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for death and personal injury 17 per incident, and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for property 18 19 damage. The commission may require higher amounts of insurance 20 coverage. 21 5455.2.

5455.2. The protection insurance coverage required under
Section 5455 shall-be evidenced by the deposit of any of the
following with the commission covering cover each motor vehicle
used or to be used under the permit applied for:

(a) A a taxicab carrier's permit. The policy of insurance, *insurance shall be* issued by a company licensed to write insurance
in this state, or by nonadmitted insurers subject to Section 1763
of the Insurance Code, if the policies meet the rules promulgated
therefor by the commission.

30 (b) A bond of a surety company licensed to write surety bonds
 31 in this state.

32 (c) Evidence of the qualification of the taxicab carrier as a
 33 self-insurer as may be authorized by the commission.

5455.4. No entity holding a valid taxicab carrier permit issued
by the commission pursuant to this chapter shall be required by a
city, county, city and county, or any other local agency to provide
insurance in a manner different from that required by this article.
5455.6. The insurance requirements specified in this article
shall only be applicable to motor vehicles while providing taxicab
transportation services. When not providing those services, the

1 insurance requirements for those vehicles shall be the minimum

2 amounts otherwise applicable to motor vehicles not providing

<u>3 taxicab transportation services.</u>

4 5455.8. The insurance policy shall be filed with the commission. 5 With the consent of the commission, a copy of an insurance policy, certified by the company issuing it to be a true copy of the original 6 7 policy, or a photocopy thereof, or an electronic copy thereof, or 8 an abstract of the provisions of the policy, or a certificate of 9 insurance issued by the company issuing the policy, may be filed with the commission in lieu of the original or a duplicate or 10 11 counterpart of the policy.

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#### Article 6. Pricing and GPS Metering

5456. The commission shall not regulate either of the following
 with respect to provision of taxicab transportation services:

(a) Fares or fees charged by taxicab carriers, including, but not
 limited to, meter rates, gate fees, or any other charge to the
 consumer related to the hiring of a taxicab.

(b) The regulate the type of device used by taxicab carriers to
 calculate fares, including the use of global positioning system
 metering as a form of calculating fares.

5456.2. The commission may adopt rules requiring taxicab
carriers to disclose fares, fees, and other pricing structures for
taxicab transportation services. Any rules shall allow a taxicab
carrier to disclose fares, fees, or other pricing structures on its
Internet Web site or cellular telephone application.

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#### Article 7. Taxicab Drivers

5457. An individual shall not be a driver providing taxicab
transportation service regulated by this chapter without first
obtaining a taxicab driver permit from the commission pursuant
to this article.

35 5457.2. A taxicab driver permit issued pursuant to this article
 36 shall be valid in any region in this state.

37 5457.4. The commission shall issue a taxicab driver permit to
 38 an applicant if the applicant meets all of the following

39 requirements:

(a) The applicant submits to the commission a written

(b) The applicant pays a taxicab driver permit fee as determined

application for a taxicab driver permit.

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by the commission. (c) The applicant is a minimum of 18 years of age. (d) The applicant possesses a current class C California driver's license. (c) The applicant is not afflicted with either a physical or mental incapacity that would preclude the individual from safely operating a taxicab and performing the duties normally associated with the profession. (f) The applicant passes a written exam as prescribed by the commission. (g) The applicant passes a background check through the Department of Justice's live scan system. 5457.6. An applicant may be required to submit a medical report and obtain a valid medical certificate if the application, or observation by the commission, indicates a physical or mental affliction. In that situation, the applicant may be granted a temporary taxicab driver permit for 30 days pending receipt of a valid medical certificate. Upon submittal of the valid medical certificate and its acceptance by the commission, a regular taxicab driver permit shall be issued to the applicant. 5457.8. An applicant shall be denied a taxicab driver permit if any portion of the application is found to be falsified. If the falsification is deemed to be willful and intentional, the applicant shall not be allowed to reapply for a taxicab driver permit for a one-year period from the time the falsification is first discovered. Should a repeat offense of falsification occur, the applicant shall not be allowed to reapply for a taxicab driver permit for a seven-year period from the time the additional falsification is discovered. 5457.10. An applicant who has willfully and intentionally attempted to cheat in the taxicab driver permit exam process shall be immediately disgualified from the exam. First-time offenders shall be ineligible to retake the exam for a 180-day period. Repeat offenders shall be ineligible to retake the exam for a seven-year period. Test misconduct shall include, but not be limited to, using notes or other materials that have been prohibited, looking at other applicant test papers, talking to other applicants during the exam,

1 failing to stop as requested at the end of the exam period, or in any

2 way coercing others for exam information.

3 <del>5457.12.</del>

4 5457. While providing taxicab transportation services, a taxicab

5 driver shall have in his or her immediate possession, and shall

6 present, upon request, to a law enforcement officer, a representative

7 of the commission, or a customer, both all of the following:

8 (a) A-Evidence of a valid Class C California driver's license.

9 (b) A valid-taxicab driver permit issued by the commission. 10 commission to a taxicab carrier.

11 (c) Evidence of the taxicab carrier's liability insurance in

12 compliance with Article 5 (commencing with Section 5455).

13 <del>5457.14.</del>

5457.2. A holder of a taxicab driver permit shall not drive a
 taxicab while his or her driver's license is expired, suspended, or
 revoked.

17 5457.16. A taxicab driver shall properly display his or her valid

taxicab driver permit in the taxicab in a manner as preseribed by
 the commission.

20 5457.18. A taxicab driver shall not do any of the following:

(a) Knowingly allow another individual to use his or her taxicab
 driver permit.

23 (b) Duplicate a taxicab driver permit.

24 (c) Use another person's taxicab driver permit.

25 (d) Apply for, or possess, more than one taxicab driver permit
 26 issued by the commission.

5457.20. A holder of a taxicab driver permit that becomes
invalid shall destroy the permit.

29 5457.22.

30 5457.4. (a) A taxicab carrier shall do all of the following:

(1) Participate in a pull-notice system pursuant to Section 1808.1of the Vehicle Code to regularly check the driving records of all

33 taxicab drivers employed or contracted by the carrier.

(2) Provide for a mandatory controlled substance and alcohol
testing certification program for taxicab drivers employed or
contracted by the carrier, as required by the commission. The
program shall not be more strict than the program adopted by the
commission pursuant to Section 1032.1 for transportation network
company drivers.

(3) Ensure that a taxicab driver employed or contracted by the 1

2 carrier meets all of the following requirements:

3 (A) Is a minimum of 18 years of age. 4

(B) Possesses a valid Class C California driver's license.

5 (C) Is not afflicted with either a physical or mental incapacity that would preclude the individual from safely operating a taxicab 6 7 and performing the duties normally associated with the profession.

8 (D) Passes a background check through the Department of 9 Justice's live scan system.

10 (4) Provide each taxicab driver employed or contracted by the taxicab carrier with documentation necessary for the driver to 11 12 comply with subdivisions (b) and (c) of Section 5457.

(b) A taxicab carrier may require a taxicab driver to submit a 13 medical report and obtain a valid medical certificate if the carrier 14 15 believes that the driver has a physical or mental affliction. 16 <del>(b)</del>

17 (c) Taxicab drivers hired or contracted by a taxicab carrier on 18 or after January 1, 2017, shall be subject to mandatory drug and alcohol testing prior to employment or contracting. Drivers hired 19 20 or contracted by a taxicab carrier before January 1, 2017, shall 21 complete a drug and alcohol test before January 1, 2018.

22 5457.24.

23 5457.6. (a) A taxicab carrier regulated pursuant to this chapter 24 shall not employ, or contract with, any of the following persons 25 as a taxicab driver:

26 (1) A person convicted, during the preceding seven years, of 27 any offense relating to the use, sale, possession, or transportation of narcotics, controlled substances, or addictive or dangerous drugs, 28 29 or of any act involving force, violence, threat, or intimidation 30 against persons, or of any sexual offense, or of any act involving 31 moral turpitude, including fraud or intentional dishonesty for personal gain, or of any felony offense, or of any offense involving 32 the possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon, or of any offense 33 34 involving the solicitation or agreement to engage in or engagement 35 in any act of prostitution, or of any act of resisting, delaying, or obstructing a peace officer, public officer, or emergency medical 36 technician, or of theft in either degree. For the purposes of this 37 38 paragraph, a subsequent change of plea or vacation of verdict and 39 dismissal of charges pursuant to Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code

does not release the applicant from the penalties and disabilities 1 2 resulting from the offense of which he or she has been convicted. 3 (2) A person required to register as a sex offender under Section 4 290 of the Penal Code or a person convicted of a felony involving 5 any type of sexual offense; the manufacture, possession for sale, 6 transportation, or distribution of narcotics, controlled substances, 7 or addictive or dangerous drugs; force, violence, threat, or 8 intimidation against persons; kidnaping; forgery, fraud, larceny, 9 extortion, burglary, robbery, or theft; credit card fraud; possession 10 of a firearm or dangerous weapon; resisting or obstructing a peace 11 officer, public officer, or emergency medical technician; or use of 12 a vehicle for hire in the commission of a felony. 13 (3) A person convicted of any violation of Section 20001, 20003, 20004, 23104, or 23153 of the Vehicle Code. 14 15 (b) For purposes of subdivision (a), out-of-state convictions for 16 equivalent violations shall be given the same effect as in-state 17 convictions. 18 19 Article 8. Vehicle Inspection 20 21 5458. Upon initial placement into service and annually 22 thereafter, a taxicab carrier shall inspect each of its motor vehicles 23 used for taxicab transportation services; or have each vehicle 24 inspected at a facility licensed by the Bureau of Automotive Repair, 25 and shall maintain complete documentation of each inspection. 26 The inspection shall cover all of the following components, and 27 each component shall, at a minimum, be in satisfactory condition 28 before a vehicle may be used in providing taxicab transportation 29 services: 30 (a) Foot brakes. 31

31 (b) Emergency brakes.32 (c) Steering mechanism.

33 (d) Windshield.

34 (e) Rear window and other glass.

35 (f) Windshield wipers.

36 (g) Headlights.

37 (h) Tail lights.

38 (i) Turn indicator lights.

39 (j) Stop lights.

40 (k) Front seat adjustment mechanism.

- 1 (1) Doors, including opening, closing, and locking.
- 2 (m) Horn.
- 3 (n) Speedometer.
- 4 (o) Bumpers.
  - (p) Muffler and exhaust system.
- 6 (q) Tires.
  - (r) Interior and exterior rear-view mirrors.
  - (s) Safety belts for the driver and passengers.
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#### Article 9. Local Agencies and Airports

5459. (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this 12 13 article and in Section 5451.3, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, this chapter constitutes the exclusive regulation 14 15 of taxicab carriers, taxicab drivers, carriers and taxicab 16 transportation services in this state and preempts all other 17 regulation. state. In that regard, a local agency may not require a license, or impose a tax or fee, for the conduct of taxicab 18 19 transportation services subject to regulation under this chapter.

(b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a local
agency from designating taxicab stands on public highways under
its jurisdiction pursuant to Section 21112 of the Vehicle Code for
use by taxicabs, or from designating other locations for taxicabs
to stop pursuant to Section 22500 of the Vehicle Code.

25 (c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the 26 governing body of an airport from adopting and enforcing 27 reasonable and nondiscriminatory local airport rules, regulations, 28 and ordinances pertaining to access, use of highways, parking, 29 traffic control, passenger transfers and occupancy, passenger 30 solicitation practices, and the use of buildings and facilities, that are applicable to taxicab carriers operating on airport property. In 31 32 that regard, the governing body of an airport may require a taxicab 33 carrier to obtain an airport permit in order to operate taxicab 34 transportation services to or from the airport. However, the 35 governing body of an airport may not impose a fee on taxicab carriers that is based on the gross receipts of the carrier, and may 36 37 not impose vehicle safety, vehicle licensing, or insurance requirements on taxicab carriers that are more burdensome than 38 39 those imposed by this chapter or by commission regulation pursuant to this chapter. 40

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(d) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any
 agreement entered into between a taxicab carrier and the governing
 board of an airport pursuant to Article 4.5 (commencing with
 Section 21690.5) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 9.

#### Article 10. Violations

8 5460. Every taxicab carrier and every officer, director, agent, 9 employee, or contractor of any taxicab carrier who violates or fails 10 to comply with, or who procures, aids, or abets any violation of, 11 any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, or 12 comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, 13 demand, or requirement of the commission, or with any permit 14 issued under this chapter, or who procures, aids, or abets any 15 taxicab carrier in its failure to comply with the order, decision, 16 rule, regulation, direction, demand, requirement, or permit, is guilty 17 of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not less than one 18 thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five thousand dollars 19 (\$5,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than 20 three months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

21 5460.2. Every person other than a taxicab carrier who 22 knowingly and willfully, either individually, or acting as an officer, 23 agent, or employee of a person other than a taxicab carrier, who 24 violates any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, 25 or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission, or who procures, aids, 26 27 or abets any taxicab carrier in its violation of this chapter, or in its 28 failure to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement, is guilty of a 29 30 misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not less than one 31 thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five thousand dollars 32 (\$5,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than 33 three months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

5460.4. Every taxicab carrier and every officer, director, agent, employee, or contractor of any taxicab carrier who violates or fails to comply with, or who procures, aids, or abets any violation by any taxicab carrier of, any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission, or with any permit issued under this chapter, or who procures,

aids, or abets any taxicab carrier in its failure to comply with the
 order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, requirement,
 or permit, is subject to a civil penalty of not more than two
 thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each offense.

5 5460.6. Every person other than a taxicab carrier who 6 knowingly and willfully, either individually, or acting as an officer, 7 agent, or employee of a person other than a taxicab carrier, who 8 violates any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, 9 or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission, or who procures, aids, 10 11 or abets any taxicab carrier in its violation of this chapter, or in its 12 failure to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement, is subject to a civil 13 penalty of not more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each 14 offense. 15

5460.8. Every person who drives a taxicab in conjunction with
providing taxicab transportation services subject to regulation
under this chapter and who does not possess a valid taxicab driver
permit is in violation of Section 5457 or 5457.2 is guilty of a
misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not less than

dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) and not more than \_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_) or by
imprisonment in a county jail for not more than \_\_\_\_\_ months, or
by both that fine and imprisonment.

5460.10. Every violation of this chapter or of any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission by any person is a separate and distinct offense and, in case of a continuing violation, each day's continuance thereof is a separate and distinct offense.

5460.12. (a) Whenever a peace officer, as defined in Chapter
4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal
Code, arrests a person for the operation of a taxicab without a valid *taxicab carrier* permit, the peace officer may impound and retain
possession of the vehicle.

(b) If the vehicle is seized from a person who is not the owner
of the vehicle, the impounding authority shall immediately give
notice to the owner by first-class mail.

(c) The vehicle shall immediately be returned to the owner if
the violation is not prosecuted or is dismissed, the owner is found
not guilty of the offense, or it is determined that the vehicle was
used in violation of Section 5460.8 without the knowledge and

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1 consent of the owner. The vehicle shall be returned to the owner 2 upon payment of any fine ordered by the court. If the vehicle is

3 seized due to a violation of a person other than the owner of the

4 vehicle, the vehicle shall be returned to the owner after all

5 impoundment fees are paid. After the expiration of six weeks from6 the final disposition of the criminal case, unless the owner is in

7 the process of making payments to the court, the impounding 8 authority may deal with the vehicle as lost or abandoned property

9 under Section 1411 of the Penal Code.

(d) At any time, a person may make a motion in superior court
for the immediate return of the vehicle on the ground that there
was no probable cause to seize it or that there is some other good
cause, as determined by the court, for the return of the vehicle. A
proceeding under this section is a limited civil case.

15 5460.14. When a person is convicted of the offense of operating a taxicab without a valid *taxicab carrier* permit, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, if the court determines the person has the ability to pay, the court shall impose a mandatory fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for a first conviction or five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a subsequent conviction.

22 5460.16. Whenever the commission, after hearing, finds that 23 any entity is operating as a taxicab carrier without a valid permit 24 in violation of this chapter, the commission may impose a fine of 25 not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation. 26 The commission may assess the entity an amount sufficient to 27 cover the reasonable expense of investigation incurred by the 28 commission. The commission may assess interest on any fine or 29 assessment imposed, to commence on the day the payment of the 30 fine or assessment becomes delinquent. All fines, assessments, 31 and interest collected shall be deposited at least once each month 32 in the General Fund.

33 SEC. 14. Section 120269 of the Public Utilities Code is 34 amended to read:

120269. (a) If the board licenses or regulates any transportation service, pursuant to Section 120266, or any passenger jitney service, pursuant to Section 120267, and the licensed or regulated service employs, or contracts with, any driver who (1) is not required to be tested for controlled substances and alcohol pursuant to Part 382 (commencing with Section 382.101) of Title 49 of the

1 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1032.1 or 5457.22 of this 2 code, or Section 34520 of the Vehicle Code, and (2) is not 3 exempted under Section 34520 of the Vehicle Code, the board 4 shall adopt, by ordinance or resolution, a mandatory controlled 5 substance and alcohol testing certification program for those 6 drivers.

7 (b) The program adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall meet 8 substantially the requirements set forth in paragraph (3) of 9 subdivision (b) of Section 53075.5 of the Government Code, as 10 that paragraph read on December 31, 2016.

(c) Evidence derived from a positive test result collected
pursuant to the program adopted under subdivision (a) shall not
be admissible in a criminal prosecution concerning unlawful
possession, sale, or distribution of controlled substances.

15 SEC. 15. Section 1808.1 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 16 read:

17 1808.1. (a) The prospective employer of a driver who drives 18 a vehicle specified in subdivision (k) shall obtain a report showing the driver's current public record as recorded by the department. 19 20 For purposes of this subdivision, a report is current if it was issued 21 less than 30 days prior to the date the employer employs the driver. 22 The report shall be reviewed, signed, and dated by the employer and maintained at the employer's place of business until receipt 23 24 of the pull-notice system report pursuant to subdivisions (b) and 25 (c). These reports shall be presented upon request to an authorized 26 representative of the Department of the California Highway Patrol 27 during regular business hours.

28 (b) The employer of a driver who drives a vehicle specified in 29 subdivision (k) shall participate in a pull-notice system, which is 30 a process for the purpose of providing the employer with a report 31 showing the driver's current public record as recorded by the 32 department, and any subsequent convictions, failures to appear, 33 accidents, driver's license suspensions, driver's license revocations, 34 or any other actions taken against the driving privilege or 35 certificate, added to the driver's record while the employer's 36 notification request remains valid and uncanceled. As used in this 37 section, participation in the pull-notice system means obtaining a requester code and enrolling all employed drivers who drive a 38 vehicle specified in subdivision (k) under that requester code. 39

1 (c) The employer of a driver of a vehicle specified in subdivision 2 (k) shall, additionally, obtain a periodic report from the department 3 at least every 12 months. The employer shall verify that each 4 employee's driver's license has not been suspended or revoked, 5 the employee's traffic violation point count, and whether the 6 employee has been convicted of a violation of Section 23152 or 7 23153. The report shall be signed and dated by the employer and 8 maintained at the employer's principal place of business. The 9 report shall be presented upon demand to an authorized 10 representative of the Department of the California Highway Patrol 11 during regular business hours.

(d) Upon the termination of a driver's employment, the employer
shall notify the department to discontinue the driver's enrollment
in the pull-notice system.

(e) For the purposes of the pull-notice system and periodic report
process required by subdivisions (b) and (c), an owner, other than
an owner-operator as defined in Section 34624, and an employer
who drives a vehicle described in subdivision (k) shall be enrolled
as if he or she were an employee. A family member and a volunteer
driver who drives a vehicle described in subdivision (k) shall also
be enrolled as if he or she were an employee.

22 (f) An employer who, after receiving a driving record pursuant 23 to this section, employs or continues to employ as a driver a person 24 against whom a disqualifying action has been taken regarding his 25 or her driving privilege or required driver's certificate, is guilty of 26 a public offense, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished 27 by confinement in a county jail for not more than six months, by 28 a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both 29 that confinement and fine.

30 (g) As part of its inspection of bus maintenance facilities and terminals required at least once every 13 months pursuant to 31 32 subdivision (c) of Section 34501, the Department of the California 33 Highway Patrol shall determine whether each transit operator, as 34 defined in Section 99210 of the Public Utilities Code, is then in 35 compliance with this section and Section 12804.6, and shall certify 36 each operator found to be in compliance. Funds shall not be 37 allocated pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 99200) 38 of Part 11 of Division 10 of the Public Utilities Code to a transit 39 operator that the Department of the California Highway Patrol has 40 not certified pursuant to this section.

1 (h) (1) A request to participate in the pull-notice system 2 established by this section shall be accompanied by a fee 3 determined by the department to be sufficient to defray the entire 4 actual cost to the department for the notification service. For the 5 receipt of subsequent reports, the employer shall also be charged 6 a fee established by the department pursuant to Section 1811. An 7 employer who qualifies pursuant to Section 1812 shall be exempt 8 from any fee required pursuant to this section. Failure to pay the 9 fee shall result in automatic cancellation of the employer's 10 participation in the notification services.

(2) A regularly organized fire department, having official
recognition of the city, county, city and county, or district in which
the department is located, shall participate in the pull-notice
program and shall not be subject to the fee established pursuant
to this subdivision.

(3) The Board of Pilot Commissioners for Monterey Bay and
the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun, and its port
agent shall participate in the pull-notice system established by this
section, subject to Section 1178.5 of the Harbors and Navigation
Code, and shall not be subject to the fees established pursuant to
this subdivision.

(i) The department, as soon as feasible, may establish an
automatic procedure to provide the periodic reports to an employer
by mail or via an electronic delivery method, as required by
subdivision (c), on a regular basis without the need for individual
requests.

27 (j) (1) The employer of a driver who is employed as a casual 28 driver is not required to enter that driver's name in the pull-notice 29 system, as otherwise required by subdivision (a). However, the 30 employer of a casual driver shall be in possession of a report of 31 the driver's current public record as recorded by the department, 32 prior to allowing a casual driver to drive a vehicle specified in 33 subdivision (k). A report is current if it was issued less than six 34 months prior to the date the employer employs the driver.

(2) For the purposes of this subdivision, a driver is employed
as a casual driver when the employer has employed the driver less
than 30 days during the preceding six months. "Casual driver"
does not include a driver who operates a vehicle that requires a
passenger transportation endorsement.

(k) This section applies to a vehicle for the operation of which 1 2 the driver is required to have a class A or class B driver's license, 3 a class C license with any endorsement issued pursuant to Section 4 15278, a class C license issued pursuant to Section 12814.7, or a 5 certificate issued pursuant to Section 12517, 12519, 12520, 12523, 12523.5, or 12527, a passenger vehicle having a seating capacity 6 7 of not more than 10 persons, including the driver, operated for 8. compensation by a charter-party carrier of passengers or passenger 9 stage corporation pursuant to a certificate of public convenience 10 and necessity or a permit issued by the Public Utilities Commission, or a taxicab as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 11 12 27908.

(1) This section shall not be construed to change the definition
of "employer," "employee," or "independent contractor" for any
purpose.

(m) A motor carrier who contracts with a person to drive a
vehicle described in subdivision (k) that is owned by, or leased to,
that motor carrier, shall be subject to subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d),
(f), (j), (k), and (l) and the employer obligations in those
subdivisions.

21 SEC. 16. Section 12523.6 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 22 read:

23 12523.6. (a) (1) On and after March 1, 1998, no person who 24 is employed primarily as a driver of a motor vehicle that is used 25 for the transportation of persons with developmental disabilities, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 4512 of the Welfare and 26 Institutions Code, shall operate that motor vehicle unless that 27 28 person has in his or her possession a valid driver's license of the 29 appropriate class and a valid special driver certificate issued by 30 the department.

(2) This subdivision only applies to a person who is employed
by a business, a nonprofit organization, or a state or local public
agency.

(b) The special driver certificate shall be issued only to an
applicant who has cleared a criminal history background check by
the Department of Justice and, if applicable, by the Federal Bureau
of Investigation.

(1) In order to determine the applicant's suitability as the driver
of a vehicle used for the transportation of persons with
developmental disabilities, the Department of the California

1 Highway Patrol shall require the applicant to furnish to that 2 department, on a form provided or approved by that department 3 for submission to the Department of Justice, a full set of 4 fingerprints sufficient to enable a criminal background 5 investigation.

6 (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), an applicant shall
7 furnish to the Department of the California Highway Patrol
8 evidence of having resided in this state for seven consecutive years
9 immediately prior to the date of application for the certificate.

10 (3) If an applicant is unable to furnish the evidence required 11 under paragraph (2), the Department of the California Highway 12 Patrol shall require the applicant to furnish an additional full set 13 of fingerprints. That department shall submit those fingerprint 14 cards to the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice shall, in turn, submit the additional full set of fingerprints required 15 16 under this paragraph to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a 17 national criminal history record check.

18 (4) Applicant fingerprint forms shall be processed and returned 19 to the area office of the Department of the California Highway 20 Patrol from which they originated not later than 15 working days 21 from the date on which the fingerprint forms were received by the 22 Department of Justice, unless circumstances, other than the 23 administrative duties of the Department of Justice, warrant further 24 investigation. Upon implementation of an electronic fingerprinting 25 system with terminals located statewide and managed by the 26 Department of Justice, the Department of Justice shall ascertain 27 the information required pursuant to this subdivision within three 28 working days.

(5) The applicant shall pay, in addition to the fees authorized
in Section 2427, a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for an original
certificate and twelve dollars (\$12) for the renewal of that
certificate to the Department of the California Highway Patrol.

33 (c) A certificate issued under this section shall not be deemed
34 a certification to operate a particular vehicle that otherwise requires
35 a driver's license or endorsement for a particular class under this
36 code.

37 (d) On or after March 1, 1998, no person who operates a
38 business or a nonprofit organization or agency shall employ a
39 person who is employed primarily as a driver of a motor vehicle
40 for hire that is used for the transportation of persons with

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developmental disabilities unless the employed person operates
 the motor vehicle in compliance with subdivision (a).

(e) Nothing in this section precludes an employer of persons
who are occasionally used as drivers of motor vehicles for the
transportation of persons with developmental disabilities from
requiring those persons, as a condition of employment, to obtain
a special driver certificate pursuant to this section or precludes any
volunteer driver from applying for a special driver certificate.

9 (f) As used in this section, a person is employed primarily as a 10 driver if that person performs at least 50 percent of his or her time 11 worked including, but not limited to, time spent assisting persons 12 onto and out of the vehicle, or at least 20 hours a week, whichever 13 is less, as a compensated driver of a motor vehicle for hire for the 14 transportation of persons with developmental disabilities.

15 (g) This section does not apply to any person who has 16 successfully completed a background investigation prescribed by 17 law, including, but not limited to, health care transport vehicle 18 operators, or to the operator of a taxicab regulated pursuant to 19 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the Public Utilities Code. This section does not apply to a person who 20 21 holds a valid certificate, other than a farm labor vehicle driver 22 certificate, issued under Section 12517.4 or 12527. This section 23 does not apply to a driver who provides transportation on a 24 noncommercial basis to persons with developmental disabilities. 25 SEC. 17. Section 16500 of the Vehicle Code is amended to

25 SEC. 17. Section 16500 of the vehicle Code is amended to 26 read:

27 16500. Every owner of a vehicle used in the transportation of 28 passengers for hire, when the operation of the vehicle is not subject 29 to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission, shall maintain, 30 whenever he or she may be engaged in conducting those operations; 31 proof of financial responsibility resulting from the ownership or 32 operation of the vehicle and arising by reason of personal injury 33 to, or death of, any one person, of at least fifteen thousand dollars 34 (\$15,000), and, subject to the limit of fifteen thousand dollars 35 (\$15,000) for each person injured or killed, of at least thirty 36 thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the injury to, or the death of, two 37 or more persons in any one accident, and for damages to property of at least five thousand dollars (\$5,000) resulting from any one 38 39 accident. Proof of financial responsibility may be maintained by 40 either:

(a) Being insured under a motor vehicle liability policy against
 that liability:

3 (b) Obtaining a bond of the same kind, and containing the same
 4 provisions, as those bonds specified in Section 16434.

5 (c) By depositing with the department thirty-five thousand

6 dollars (\$35,000), which amount shall be deposited in a special

7 deposit account with the Controller for the purpose of this section.

8 (d) Qualifying as a self-insurer under Section 16053.

9 The department shall return the deposit to the person entitled

10 thereto when he or she is no longer required to maintain proof of 11 financial responsibility as required by this section or upon his or

12 her death.

A taxicab carrier regulated by the City and County of San
 Francisco or its airport authority shall comply with the insurance
 requirements of Section 5455 of the Public Utilities Code.

16 <del>SEC. 18.</del>

17 SEC. 17. Section 21100 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 18 read:

- 19 21100. Local authorities may adopt rules and regulations by20 ordinance or resolution regarding all of the following matters:
- (a) Regulating or prohibiting processions or assemblages on thehighways.

23 (b) Regulating traffic by means of traffic officers.

(c) Regulating traffic by means of official traffic control devices
 meeting the requirements of Section 21400.

(d) (1) Regulating traffic by means of a person given temporary
or permanent appointment for that duty by the local authority when
official traffic control devices are disabled or otherwise inoperable,
at the scenes of accidents or disasters, or at locations as may require
traffic direction for orderly traffic flow.

31 (2) A person shall not be appointed pursuant to this subdivision unless and until the local authority has submitted to the 32 commissioner or to the chief law enforcement officer exercising 33 34 jurisdiction in the enforcement of traffic laws within the area in 35 which the person is to perform the duty, for review, a proposed program of instruction for the training of a person for that duty, 36 and unless and until the commissioner or other chief law 37 38 enforcement officer approves the proposed program. The 39 commissioner or other chief law enforcement officer shall approve 40 a proposed program if he or she reasonably determines that the

1 program will provide sufficient training for persons assigned to 2 perform the duty described in this subdivision.

3 (e) Regulating traffic at the site of road or street construction 4 or maintenance by persons authorized for that duty by the local 5 authority.

6 (f) (1) Licensing and regulating the operation of tow truck service or tow truck drivers whose principal place of business or 7 employment is within the jurisdiction of the local authority, 8 9 excepting the operation and operators of any auto dismantlers' tow vehicle licensed under Section 11505 or any tow truck operated 10 11 by a repossessing agency licensed under Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 7500) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions 12 Code and its registered employees. 13

14 (2) The Legislature finds that the safety and welfare of the general public is promoted by permitting local authorities to 15 regulate tow truck service companies and operators by requiring 16 17 licensure, insurance, and proper training in the safe operation of 18 towing equipment, thereby ensuring against towing mistakes that may lead to violent confrontation, stranding motorists in dangerous 19 20 situations, impeding the expedited vehicle recovery, and wasting 21 state and local law enforcement's limited resources.

(3) This subdivision does not limit the authority of a city or cityand county pursuant to Section 12111.

(g) Operation of bicycles, and, as specified in Section 21114.5,
electric carts by physically disabled persons, or persons 50 years
of age or older, on public sidewalks.

(h) Providing for the appointment of nonstudent school crossing
guards for the protection of persons who are crossing a street or
highway in the vicinity of a school or while returning thereafter
to a place of safety.

(i) Regulating the methods of deposit of garbage and refuse in
streets and highways for collection by the local authority or by
any person authorized by the local authority.

34 (j) (1) Regulating cruising.

35 (2) The ordinance or resolution adopted pursuant to this 36 subdivision shall regulate cruising, which is the repetitive driving 37 of a motor vehicle past a traffic control point in traffic that is 38 congested at or near the traffic control point, as determined by the 39 ranking peace officer on duty within the affected area, within a 40 specified time period and after the vehicle operator has been given

an adequate written notice that further driving past the control
 point will be a violation of the ordinance or resolution.

3 (3) A person is not in violation of an ordinance or resolution
4 adopted pursuant to this subdivision unless both of the following
5 apply:

6 (A) That person has been given the written notice on a previous 7 driving trip past the control point and then again passes the control 8 point in that same time interval.

9 (B) The beginning and end of the portion of the street subject 10 to cruising controls are clearly identified by signs that briefly and 11 clearly state the appropriate provisions of this subdivision and the 12 local ordinance or resolution on cruising.

(k) Regulating or authorizing the removal by peace officers of
vehicles unlawfully parked in a fire lane, as described in Section
22500.1, on private property. A removal pursuant to this
subdivision shall be consistent, to the extent possible, with the
procedures for removal and storage set forth in Chapter 10
(commencing with Section 22650).

19 (1) Regulating mobile billboard advertising displays, as defined 20 in Section 395.5, including the establishment of penalties, which 21 may include, but are not limited to, removal of the mobile billboard 22 advertising display, civil penalties, and misdemeanor criminal 23 penalties, for a violation of the ordinance or resolution. The 24 ordinance or resolution may establish a minimum distance that a 25 mobile billboard advertising display shall be moved after a 26 specified time period.

(m) Licensing and regulating the operation of pedicabs for hire,
as defined in Section 467.5, and operators of pedicabs for hire,
including requiring one or more of the following documents:

30 (1) A valid California driver's license.

(2) Proof of successful completion of a bicycle safety training
course certified by the League of American Bicyclists or an
equivalent organization as determined by the local authority.

(3) A valid California identification card and proof of successful
completion of the written portion of the California driver's license
examination administered by the department. The department shall
administer, without charging a fee, the original driver's license
written examination on traffic laws and signs to a person who
states that he or she is, or intends to become, a pedicab operator,
and who holds a valid California identification card or has

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1 successfully completed an application for a California identification

2 card. If the person achieves a passing score on the examination,

3 the department shall issue a certificate of successful completion

4 of the examination, bearing the person's name and identification

5 card number. The certificate shall not serve in lieu of successful

6 completion of the required examination administered as part of

7 any subsequent application for a driver's license. The department8 is not required to enter the results of the examination into the

9 computerized record of the person's identification card or otherwise10 retain a record of the examination or results.

11 (n) (1) This section does not authorize a local authority to enact or enforce an ordinance or resolution that establishes a violation 12 13 if a violation for the same or similar conduct is provided in this 14 code, nor does it authorize a local authority to enact or enforce an 15 ordinance or resolution that assesses a fine, penalty, assessment, or fee for a violation if a fine, penalty, assessment, or fee for a 16 17 violation involving the same or similar conduct is provided in this 18 code.

(2) This section does not preclude a local authority from enacting
parking ordinances pursuant to existing authority in Chapter 9
(commencing with Section 22500) of Division 11.

(o) (1) Regulating advertising signs on motor vehicles parked
or left standing upon a public street. The ordinance or resolution
may establish a minimum distance that the advertising sign shall
be moved after a specified time period.

26 (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any of the following:

(A) Advertising signs that are permanently affixed to the body
of, an integral part of, or a fixture of a motor vehicle for permanent
decoration, identification, or display and that do not extend beyond
the overall length, width, or height of the vehicle.

(B) If the license plate frame is installed in compliance with
Section 5201, paper advertisements issued by a dealer contained
within that license plate frame or any advertisements on that license
plate frame.

35 (3) As used in paragraph (2), "permanently affixed" means any36 of the following:

(A) Painted directly on the body of a motor vehicle.

38 (B) Applied as a decal on the body of a motor vehicle.

39 (C) Placed in a location on the body of a motor vehicle that was40 specifically designed by a vehicle manufacturer as defined in

Section 672 and licensed pursuant to Section 11701, in compliance
 with both state and federal law or guidelines, for the express

3 purpose of containing an advertising sign.

4 <u>SEC. 19.</u>

5 SEC. 18. Section 21100.4 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 6 read:

7 21100.4. (a) (1) A magistrate presented with the affidavit of 8 a peace officer establishing reasonable cause to believe that a 9 vehicle, described by vehicle type and license number, is being operated as a taxicab or other passenger vehicle for hire in violation 10 of Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of 11 12 the Public Utilities Code or in violation of an ordinance of the City 13 and County of San Francisco or its airport authority shall issue a warrant or order authorizing the peace officer to immediately seize 14 15 and cause the removal of the vehicle.

16 (2) The warrant or court order may be entered into a 17 computerized database.

(3) A vehicle so impounded may be impounded for a period notto exceed 30 days.

20 (4) The impounding agency, within two working days of 21 impoundment, shall send a notice by certified mail, return receipt 22 requested, to the legal owner of the vehicle, at an address obtained 23 from the department, informing the owner that the vehicle has 24 been impounded and providing the owner with a copy of the 25 warrant or court order. Failure to notify the legal owner within 26 two working days shall prohibit the impounding agency from 27 charging for more than 15 days' impoundment when a legal owner 28 redeems the impounded vehicle. The law enforcement agency shall 29 be open to issue a release to the registered owner or legal owner, 30 or the agent of either, whenever the agency is open to serve the 31 public for regular, nonemergency business.

32 (b) (1) An impounding agency shall release a vehicle to the 33 registered owner or his or her agent prior to the end of the 34 impoundment period and without the permission of the magistrate 35 authorizing the vehicle's seizure under any of the following 36 circumstances:

37 (A) When the vehicle is a stolen vehicle.

(B) When the vehicle was seized under this section for anoffense that does not authorize the seizure of the vehicle.

40 (C) When the vehicle is a rental car.

1 (2) A vehicle may not be released under this subdivision, except 2 upon presentation of the registered owner's or agent's currently 3 valid permit to operate the vehicle under the requirements of 4 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the 5 Public Utilities Code or an ordinance of the City and County of 6 San Francisco or its airport authority, and proof of current vehicle 7 registration, or upon order of the court.

8 (c) (1) Whenever a vehicle is impounded under this section, 9 the magistrate ordering the storage shall provide the vehicle's 10 registered and legal owners of record, or their agents, with the 11 opportunity for a poststorage hearing to determine the validity of 12 the storage.

(2) A notice of the storage shall be mailed or personally
delivered to the registered and legal owners within 48 hours after
issuance of the warrant or court order, excluding weekends and
holidays, by the person or agency executing the warrant or court
order, and shall include all of the following information:

18 (A) The name, address, and telephone number of the agency19 providing the notice.

20 (B) The location of the place of storage and a description of the 21 vehicle, which shall include, if available, the name or make, the 22 manufacturer, the license plate number, and the mileage of the 23 vehicle.

(C) A copy of the warrant or court order and the peace officer'saffidavit, as described in subdivision (a).

26 (D) A statement that, in order to receive their poststorage 27 hearing, the owners, or their agents, are required to request the 28 hearing from the magistrate issuing the warrant or court order in 29 person, in writing, or by telephone, within 10 days of the date of 30 the notice.

31 (3) The poststorage hearing shall be conducted within two court32 days after receipt of the request for the hearing.

(4) At the hearing, the magistrate may order the vehicle released
if he or she finds any of the circumstances described in subdivision
(b) or (e) that allow release of a vehicle by the impounding agency.
(5) Failure of either the registered or legal owner, or his or her

agent, to request, or to attend, a scheduled hearing satisfies thepoststorage hearing requirement.

39 (6) The agency employing the peace officer who caused the40 magistrate to issue the warrant or court order shall be responsible

for the costs incurred for towing and storage if it is determined in
 the poststorage hearing that reasonable grounds for the storage are
 not established.

4 (d) The registered owner or his or her agent is responsible for 5 all towing and storage charges related to the impoundment, and 6 any administrative charges authorized under Section 22850.5.

7 (e) A vehicle removed and seized under subdivision (a) shall 8 be released to the legal owner of the vehicle or the legal owner's 9 agent prior to the end of the impoundment period and without the 10 permission of the magistrate authorizing the seizure of the vehicle 11 if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The legal owner is a motor vehicle dealer, bank, credit union,
acceptance corporation, or other licensed financial institution
legally operating in this state or is another person, not the registered
owner, holding a security interest in the vehicle.

16 (2) (A) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent pays all 17 towing and storage fees related to the seizure of the vehicle. A lien 18 sale processing fee shall not be charged to the legal owner who redeems the vehicle prior to the 15th day of impoundment. Neither 19 20 the impounding authority nor any person having possession of the 21 vehicle shall collect from the legal owner of the type specified in 22 paragraph (1), or the legal owner's agent, any administrative 23 charges imposed pursuant to Section 22850.5 unless the legal 24 owner voluntarily requested a poststorage hearing.

25 (B) A person operating or in charge of a storage facility where 26 vehicles are stored pursuant to this section shall accept a valid 27 bank credit card or cash for payment of towing, storage, and related 28 fees by a legal or registered owner or the owner's agent claiming 29 the vehicle. A credit card shall be in the name of the person 30 presenting the card. "Credit card" means "credit card" as defined 31 in subdivision (a) of Section 1747.02 of the Civil Code, except, 32 for the purposes of this section, credit card does not include a credit 33 card issued by a retail seller.

34 (C) A person operating or in charge of a storage facility 35 described in subparagraph (B) who violates subparagraph (B) shall 36 be civilly liable to the owner of the vehicle or to the person who 37 tendered the fees for four times the amount of the towing, storage, 38 and related fees, but not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500). 39 (D) A person counting on in charge of a storage facility

39 (D) A person operating or in charge of a storage facility40 described in subparagraph (B) shall have sufficient funds on the

1 premises of the primary storage facility during normal business

2 hours to accommodate, and make change in, a reasonable monetary

3 transaction.

4 (E) Credit charges for towing and storage services shall comply 5 with Section 1748.1 of the Civil Code. Law enforcement agencies 6 may include the costs of providing for payment by credit when 7 making agreements with towing companies on rates.

8 (3) (A) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent presents to 9 the law enforcement agency or impounding agency, or any person 10 acting on behalf of those agencies, a copy of the assignment, as 11 defined in subdivision (b) of Section 7500.1 of the Business and 12 Professions Code; a release from the one responsible governmental 13 agency, only if required by the agency; a government-issued 14 photographic identification card; and any one of the following as 15 determined by the legal owner or the legal owner's agent: a 16 certificate of repossession for the vehicle, a security agreement 17 for the vehicle, or title, whether paper or electronic, showing proof 18 of legal ownership for the vehicle. The law enforcement agency, 19 impounding agency, or any other governmental agency, or any 20 person acting on behalf of those agencies, shall not require the 21 presentation of any other documents.

22 (B) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent presents to the 23 person in possession of the vehicle, or any person acting on behalf 24 of the person in possession, a copy of the assignment, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 7500.1 of the Business and 25 26 Professions Code; a release from the one responsible governmental 27 agency, only if required by the agency; a government-issued 28 photographic identification card; and any one of the following as 29 determined by the legal owner or the legal owner's agent: a 30 certificate of repossession for the vehicle, a security agreement 31 for the vehicle, or title, whether paper or electronic, showing proof 32 of legal ownership for the vehicle. The person in possession of the 33 vehicle, or any person acting on behalf of the person in possession, 34 shall not require the presentation of any other documents.

(C) All presented documents may be originals, photocopies, or
facsimile copies, or may be transmitted electronically. The law
enforcement agency, impounding agency, or any person in
possession of the vehicle, or anyone acting on behalf of them, shall
not require any documents to be notarized. The law enforcement
agency, impounding agency, or any person acting on behalf of

those agencies, may require the agent of the legal owner to produce 1 2 a photocopy or facsimile copy of its repossession agency license 3 or registration issued pursuant to Chapter 11 (commencing with 4 Section 7500) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, 5 or to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the law enforcement 6 agency, impounding agency, or any person in possession of the 7 vehicle, or anyone acting on behalf of them, that the agent is 8 exempt from licensure pursuant to Section 7500.2 or 7500.3 of the 9 Business and Professions Code.

10 (D) An administrative cost authorized under subdivision (a) of 11 Section 22850.5 shall not be charged to the legal owner of the type 12 specified in paragraph (1) who redeems the vehicle unless the legal 13 owner voluntarily requests a poststorage hearing. A city, county, 14 city and county, or state agency shall not require a legal owner or 15 a legal owner's agent to request a poststorage hearing as a requirement for release of the vehicle to the legal owner or the 16 17 legal owner's agent. The law enforcement agency, impounding 18 agency, or any other governmental agency, or any person acting 19 on behalf of those agencies, shall not require any documents other 20 than those specified in this paragraph. The law enforcement agency, 21 impounding agency, or other governmental agency, or any person 22 acting on behalf of those agencies, may not require any documents 23 to be notarized. The legal owner or the legal owner's agent shall 24 be given a copy of any documents he or she is required to sign, 25 except for a vehicle evidentiary hold logbook. The law enforcement 26 agency, impounding agency, or any person acting on behalf of 27 those agencies, or any person in possession of the vehicle, may 28 photocopy and retain the copies of any documents presented by 29 the legal owner or legal owner's agent.

(4) A failure by a storage facility to comply with any applicable
conditions set forth in this subdivision shall not affect the right of
the legal owner or the legal owner's agent to retrieve the vehicle,
provided all conditions required of the legal owner or legal owner's
agent under this subdivision are satisfied.

(f) (1) A legal owner or the legal owner's agent that obtains release of the vehicle pursuant to subdivision (e) shall not release the vehicle to the registered owner of the vehicle or the person who was listed as the registered owner when the vehicle was impounded or any agents of the registered owner until the termination of the impoundment period.

(2) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent shall not 1 2 relinquish the vehicle to the registered owner or the person who 3 was listed as the registered owner when the vehicle was impounded 4 until the registered owner or that owner's agent presents his or her 5 valid driver's license or valid temporary driver's license, and an 6 operator's permit that is in compliance with the requirements of 7 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the 8 Public Utilities Code or an ordinance of the City and County of 9 San Francisco or its airport authority, to the legal owner or the 10 legal owner's agent. The legal owner or the legal owner's agent 11 or the person in possession of the vehicle shall make every 12 reasonable effort to ensure that the license and permit presented 13 are valid and possession of the vehicle will not be given to the 14 driver who was involved in the original impoundment proceeding 15 until the expiration of the impoundment period.

16 (3) Prior to relinquishing the vehicle, the legal owner may 17 require the registered owner to pay all towing and storage charges 18 related to the impoundment and the administrative charges 19 authorized under Section 22850.5 that were incurred by the legal 20 owner in connection with obtaining the custody of the vehicle.

(4) Any legal owner who knowingly releases or causes the
release of a vehicle to a registered owner or the person in
possession of the vehicle at the time of the impoundment or any
agent of the registered owner in violation of this subdivision shall
be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a civil penalty in the
amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

(5) The legal owner, registered owner, or person in possession
of the vehicle shall not change or attempt to change the name of
the legal owner or the registered owner on the records of the
department until the vehicle is released from the impoundment.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the
registered owner and not the legal owner shall remain responsible
for any towing and storage charges related to the impoundment
and the administrative charges authorized under Section 22850.5
and any parking fines, penalties, and administrative fees incurred
by the registered owner.

(h) The law enforcement agency and the impounding agency,
including any storage facility acting on behalf of the law
enforcement agency or impounding agency, shall comply with this
section and shall not be liable to the registered owner for the

improper release of the vehicle to the legal owner or the legal 1 2 owner's agent if the release complies with this section. The legal 3 owner shall indemnify and hold harmless a storage facility from 4 any claims arising out of the release of the vehicle to the legal 5 owner or the legal owner's agent and from any damage to the 6 vehicle after its release, including the reasonable costs associated 7 with defending any such claims. A law enforcement agency shall 8 not refuse to issue a release to a legal owner or the agent of a legal 9 owner on the grounds that it previously issued a release.

11 SEC. 19. Section 27908 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 12 read:

13 27908. (a) In every taxicab operated in this state there shall 14 be a sign of heavy material, not smaller than 6 inches by 4 inches, 15 or such other size as the Public Utilities Commission, or other 16 regulating agency pursuant to Section 5451.3 of the Public Utilities 17 Code, provides for other notices or signs required to be in every 18 taxicab, securely attached and clearly displayed in view of the 19 passenger at all times, providing in letters as large as the size of 20the sign will reasonably allow, all of the following information:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the applicable
unit of the Public Utilities Commission or other regulating agency
that regulates the operation of the taxicab.

(2) The name, address, and telephone number of the taxicab
carrier that has been issued a permit to provide taxicab
transportation services by the Public Utilities Commission or other
regulating agency.

28 (b) As used in this section, "taxicab" means a passenger motor 29 vehicle designed for carrying not more than eight persons, 30 excluding the driver, and used to carry passengers for hire as part 31 of taxicab transportation services regulated pursuant to Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the Public 32 33 Utilities Code or by another regulating agency pursuant to Section 5451.3 of the Public Utilities Code. "Taxicab" shall not include a 34 35 charter-party carrier of passengers within the meaning of the 36 Passenger Charter-party Carriers' Act (Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 5351) of Division 2 of the Public Utilities Code). 37 38 SEC. 21.

39 SEC. 20. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to 40 Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution for certain

<sup>10</sup> SEC. 20:

1 costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district

2 because, in that regard, this act creates a new crime or infraction,

3 eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime

4 or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the

5 Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the

6 meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California 7 Constitution.

8 However, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that

9 this act contains other costs mandated by the state, reimbursement

10 to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made

11 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division

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12 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

## AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 27, 2016

### AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 14, 2016

## AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 4, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE-2015-16 REGULAR SESSION

# ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 650

## Introduced by Assembly Member Low

# February 24, 2015

An act to amend Section 85 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to repeal Sections 53075.5, 53075.6, 53075.61, 53075.7, 53075.8, and 53075.9 of the Government Code, to amend Section 830.7 of the Penal Code, to amend Sections 5353, 5411.5, 5412.2, 5413.5, and 120269 of, and to add Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) to Division 2 of, the Public Utilities Code, and to amend Sections 1808.1, 12523.6, 16500, 21100, 21100.4, and 27908 of the Vehicle Code, relating to transportation.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 650, as amended, Low. Public Utilities Commission: regulation of taxicabs.

Existing law provides for regulation of various types of passenger carriers by the Public Utilities Commission, including passenger stage corporations and charter-party carriers of passengers. Existing law, among other transportation services, provides for regulation of limousines and transportation network companies by the commission as charter-party carriers of passengers. Existing law requires every city and county to adopt an ordinance to regulate taxicab service within its jurisdiction, and exempts taxicab service from commission regulation.

This bill would enact the Taxicab Transportation Services Act and provide for the regulation of taxicab transportation services by the commission as a matter of statewide concern. concern, except taxicab transportation services originating in the City and County of San Francisco and at the San Francisco International Airport, which would continue to be locally regulated, but would be subject to certain requirements, including insurance and monitoring of taxicab drivers. The bill would provide for issuance of permits by the commission in all other areas of the state to taxicab carriers authorizing carriers to operate in one or more of -76 designated regions in the state. The bill would require drivers of taxicabs in those areas to obtain a taxi taxicab driver permit from the commission, and would specify the requirements that an applicant must meet. The bill would enact various provisions relating to insurance, vehicle inspections, monitoring of taxicab drivers, and other matters. The bill would exempt fares or fees charged by taxicab carriers from commission regulation, but would authorize the commission to require the disclosure of fares and fees, as specified. The bill would prohibit entities from providing taxicab transportation services without the required permit, and would provide for the commission to investigate and take action against unlicensed activity. The bill would repeal provisions providing for city and county regulation of taxicab services, but would authorize airports to continue to regulate the provision of taxicab transportation services to and from airports. The bill would require cities and counties that license taxicab services as of December 31, 2016, excluding the City and County of San Francisco, to forward to the commission licensure information for each licensee, as specified, and would thereby impose a state-mandated local program. The bill also would make conforming changes to other related provisions.

A violation of the Taxicab Transportation Services Act would be a crime and in certain cases would also be subject to a civil penalty. The bill would also require applications for taxicab carrier permits to be verified under oath, and would require certain statements by taxicab carriers relative to workers' compensation to be submitted to the commission under penalty of perjury. The bill would thereby impose a state-mandated local program by creating new crimes.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that with regard to certain mandates no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

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With regard to any other mandates, this bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs so mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

## *The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 85 of the Code of Civil Procedure is 2 amended to read:

3 85. An action or special proceeding shall be treated as a limited 4 civil case if all of the following conditions are satisfied, and, 5 notwithstanding any statute that classifies an action or special 6 proceeding as a limited civil case, an action or special proceeding 7 shall not be treated as a limited civil case unless all of the following 8 conditions are satisfied:

9 (a) The amount in controversy does not exceed twenty-five 10 thousand dollars (\$25,000). As used in this section, "amount in 11 controversy" means the amount of the demand, or the recovery 12 sought, or the value of the property, or the amount of the lien, that 13 is in controversy in the action, exclusive of attorneys' fees, interest, 14 and costs.

15 (b) The relief sought is a type that may be granted in a limited 16 civil case.

17 (c) The relief sought, whether in the complaint, a
18 cross-complaint, or otherwise, is exclusively of a type described
19 in one or more statutes that classify an action or special proceeding
20 as a limited civil case or that provide that an action or special
21 proceeding is within the original jurisdiction of the municipal
22 court, including, but not limited to, the following provisions:

23 (1) Section 798.61 or 798.88 of the Civil Code.

24 (2) Section 1719 of the Civil Code.

25 (3) Section 3342.5 of the Civil Code.

26 (4) Section 86.

27 (5) Section 86.1.

28 (6) Section 1710.20.

29 (7) Section 7581 of the Food and Agricultural Code.

#### AB 650

- (8) Section 12647 of the Food and Agricultural Code.
   (9) Section 27601 of the Food and Agricultural Code.
- 3 (10) Section 31503 of the Food and Agricultural Code.
- 4 (11) Section 31621 of the Food and Agricultural Code.
- 5 (12) Section 52514 of the Food and Agricultural Code.
- 6 (13) Section 53564 of the Food and Agricultural Code.
- 7 (14) Section 53069.4 of the Government Code.
- 8 (15) Section 5411.5 of the Public Utilities Code.
- 9 (16) Section 5460.12 of the Public Utilities Code.
- 10 (17) Section 9872.1 of the Vehicle Code.
- 11 (18) Section 10751 of the Vehicle Code.
- 12 (19) Section 14607.6 of the Vehicle Code.
- 13 (20) Section 40230 of the Vehicle Code.
- 14 (21) Section 40256 of the Vehicle Code.
- 15 SEC. 2. Section 53075.5 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 16 SEC. 3. Section 53075.6 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 17 SEC. 4. Section 53075.61 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 18 SEC. 5. Section 53075.7 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 19 SEC. 6. Section 53075.8 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 20 SEC. 7. Section 53075.9 of the Government Code is repealed.
- 21 SEC. 8. Section 830.7 of the Penal Code is amended to read:
- 22 830.7. The following persons are not peace officers but may
- 23 exercise the powers of arrest of a peace officer as specified in
- 24 Section 836 during the course and within the scope of their
- 25 employment, if they successfully complete a course in the exercise
   26 of those powers pursuant to Section 832:
- 27 (a) Persons designated by a cemetery authority pursuant to
   28 Section 8325 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (b) Persons regularly employed as security officers for
  independent institutions of higher education, recognized under
  subdivision (b) of Section 66010 of the Education Code, if the
  institution has concluded a memorandum of understanding,
  permitting the exercise of that authority, with the sheriff or the
  chief of police within whose jurisdiction the institution lies.
  (c) Persons regularly employed as security officers for health
- facilities, as defined in Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code,
   that are owned and operated by cities, counties, and eities and
- 38 counties, if the facility has concluded a memorandum of 39 understanding, permitting the exercise of that authority, with the
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sheriff or the chief of police within whose jurisdiction the facility
 lies.

3 (d) Employees or classes of employees of the California

4 Department of Forestry and Fire Protection designated by the
5 Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, provided that the primary
6 duty of the employee shall be the enforcement of the law as that
7 duty is set forth in Section 4156 of the Public Resources Code.

8 (c) Persons regularly employed as inspectors, supervisors, or 9 security officers for transit districts, as defined in Section 99213 10 of the Public Utilities Code, if the district has concluded a 11 memorandum of understanding permitting the exercise of that 12 authority, with, as applicable, the sheriff, the chief of police, or 13 the Department of the California Highway Patrol within whose

14 jurisdiction the district lies. For the purposes of this subdivision, 15 the exercise of peace officer authority may include the authority

16 to remove a vehicle from a railroad right-of-way as set forth in

17 Section 22656 of the Vehicle Code.

(f) Nonpeace officers regularly employed as county parole
 officers pursuant to Section 3089.

20 (g) Persons appointed by the Executive Director of the California
 21 Science Center pursuant to Section 4108 of the Food and
 22 Agricultural Code.

23 (h) Persons regularly employed by any department of the City 24 of Los Angeles who are designated as security officers and 25 authorized by local ordinance to enforce laws related to the 26 preservation of peace in or about the properties owned, controlled, 27 operated, or administered by any department of the City of Los 28 Angeles and authorized by a memorandum of understanding with 29 the Chief of Police of the City of Los Angeles permitting the 30 exercise of that authority. Security officers authorized pursuant to 31 this subdivision shall not be deemed peace officers for purposes 32 of Sections 241 and 243.

33 (i) Illegal dumping enforcement officers or code enforcement 34 officers, to the extent necessary to enforce laws related to illegal 35 waste dumping or littering, and authorized by a memorandum of 36 understanding with, as applicable, the sheriff or chief of police 37 within whose jurisdiction the person is employed, permitting the 38 exercise of that authority. An "illegal dumping enforcement officer 39 or code enforcement officer" is defined, for purposes of this 40 section, as a person employed full time, part time, or as a volunteer

1 after completing training prescribed by law, by a city, county, or 2 city and county, whose duties include illegal dumping enforcement 3 and who is designated by local ordinance as a public officer. An 4 illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement officer 5 may also be a person who is not regularly employed by a city, 6 county, or city and county, but who has met all training 7 requirements and is directly supervised by a regularly employed 8 illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement officer 9 conducting illegal dumping enforcement. This person shall not 10 have the power of arrest or access to summary criminal history 11 information pursuant to this section. No person may be appointed 12 as an illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement 13 officer if that person is disqualified pursuant to the criteria set forth 14 in Section 1029 of the Government Code. Persons regularly 15 employed by a city, county, or city and county designated pursuant to this subdivision may be furnished state summary criminal history 16 17 information upon a showing of compelling need pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 11105. 18

SEC. 8. Section 830.7 of the Penal Code is amended to read:
830.7. The following persons are not peace officers but may
exercise the powers of arrest of a peace officer as specified in
Section 836 during the course and within the scope of their
employment, if they successfully complete a course in the exercise
of those powers pursuant to Section 832:

(a) Persons designated by a cemetery authority pursuant toSection 8325 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) Persons regularly employed as security officers for
independent institutions of higher education, recognized under
subdivision (b) of Section 66010 of the Education Code, if the
institution has concluded a memorandum of understanding,
permitting the exercise of that authority, with the sheriff or the
chief of police within whose jurisdiction the institution lies.

(c) Persons regularly employed as security officers for health
facilities, as defined in Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code,
that are owned and operated by cities, counties, and cities and
counties, if the facility has concluded a memorandum of
understanding, permitting the exercise of that authority, with the
sheriff or the chief of police within whose jurisdiction the facility
lies.

(d) Employees or classes of employees of the California
 Department of Forestry and Fire Protection designated by the
 Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, provided that the primary
 duty of the employee shall be the enforcement of the law as that
 duty is set forth in Section 4156 of the Public Resources Code.

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6 (e) Persons regularly employed as inspectors, supervisors, or 7 security officers for transit districts, as defined in Section 99213 8 of the Public Utilities Code, if the district has concluded a 9 memorandum of understanding permitting the exercise of that 10 authority, with, as applicable, the sheriff, the chief of police, or the Department of the California Highway Patrol within whose 11 jurisdiction the district lies. For the purposes of this subdivision, 12 the exercise of peace officer authority may include the authority 13 14 to remove a vehicle from a railroad right-of-way as set forth in 15 Section 22656 of the Vehicle Code.

16 (f) Nonpeace officers regularly employed as county parole 17 officers pursuant to Section 3089.

(g) Persons appointed by the Executive Director of the California
Science Center pursuant to Section 4108 of the Food and
Agricultural Code.

21 (h) Persons regularly employed as investigators by the 22 Department of Transportation for the City of Los Angeles and 23 designated by local ordinance as public officers, to the extent 24 necessary to enforce laws related to public transportation, and 25 authorized by a memorandum of understanding with the chief of 26 police, permitting the exercise of that authority. For the purposes of this subdivision, "investigator" means an employee defined in 27 28 Section 53075.61 of the Government-Code authorized by local 29 ordinance to enforce laws related to public transportation. 30 Transportation investigators authorized by this section shall not 31 be deemed "peace officers" for purposes of Sections 241 and 243. 32 (i) Persons regularly employed by any department of the City 33 of Los Angeles who are designated as security officers and 34 authorized by local ordinance to enforce laws related to the preservation of peace in or about the properties owned, controlled, 35 36 operated, or administered by any department of the City of Los Angeles and authorized by a memorandum of understanding with 37 38 the Chief of Police of the City of Los Angeles permitting the 39 exercise of that authority. Security officers authorized pursuant to

1 this subdivision shall not be deemed peace officers for purposes

2 of Sections 241 and 243.

3 (i) Illegal dumping enforcement officers or code enforcement 4 officers, to the extent necessary to enforce laws related to illegal 5 waste dumping or littering, and authorized by a memorandum of understanding with, as applicable, the sheriff or chief of police 6 7 within whose jurisdiction the person is employed, permitting the exercise of that authority. An "illegal dumping enforcement officer 8 9 or code enforcement officer" is defined, for purposes of this section, as a person employed full time, part time, or as a volunteer 10 after completing training prescribed by law, by a city, county, or 11 city and county, whose duties include illegal dumping enforcement 12 13 and who is designated by local ordinance as a public officer. An 14 illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement officer 15 may also be a person who is not regularly employed by a city, county, or city and county, but who has met all training 16 17 requirements and is directly supervised by a regularly employed 18 illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement officer 19 conducting illegal dumping enforcement. This person shall not 20 have the power of arrest or access to summary criminal history 21 information pursuant to this section. No person may be appointed 22 as an illegal dumping enforcement officer or code enforcement 23 officer if that person is disqualified pursuant to the criteria set forth in Section 1029 of the Government Code. Persons regularly 24 25 employed by a city, county, or city and county designated pursuant 26 to this subdivision may be furnished state summary criminal history 27 information upon a showing of compelling need pursuant to 28 subdivision (c) of Section 11105.

29 SEC. 9. Section 5353 of the Public Utilities Code is amended 30 to read:

31 5353. This chapter does not apply to any of the following:

32 (a) Transportation service rendered wholly within the corporate
 33 limits of a single city or city and county and licensed or regulated
 34 by ordinance.

(b) Transportation of school pupils conducted by or under
contract with the governing board of any school district entered
into pursuant to the Education Code.

38 (c) Common carrier transportation services between fixed 39 termini or over a regular route that are subject to authorization

pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 1031) of Chapter
 5 of Part 1 of Division 1.

3 (d) Transportation services occasionally afforded for farm 4 employees moving to and from farms on which employed when 5 the transportation is performed by the employer in an owned or 6 leased vehicle, or by a nonprofit agricultural cooperative 7 association organized and acting within the scope of its powers 8 under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 54001) of Division 9 20 of the Food and Agricultural Code, and without any requirement 10 for the payment of compensation therefor by the employees.

(e) Transportation service rendered by a publicly owned transitsystem.

(f) Passenger vehicles carrying passengers on a noncommercialenterprise basis.

(g) Taxicab transportation services subject to regulation pursuant
to Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451). 5451) or exempt
from regulation under that chapter pursuant to Section 5451.3.

18 (h) Transportation of persons between home and work locations 19 or of persons having a common work-related trip purpose in a 20 vehicle having a seating capacity of 15 passengers or less, including 21 the driver, which are used for the purpose of ridesharing, as defined 22 in Section 522 of the Vehicle Code, when the ridesharing is 23 incidental to another purpose of the driver. This exemption also 24 applies to a vehicle having a seating capacity of more than 15 25 passengers if the driver files with the commission evidence of 26 liability insurance protection in the same amount and in the same 27 manner as required for a passenger stage corporation, and the 28 vehicle undergoes and passes an annual safety inspection by the 29 Department of the California Highway Patrol. The insurance filing 30 shall be accompanied by a one-time filing fee of seventy-five 31 dollars (\$75). This exemption does not apply if the primary purpose 32 for the transportation of those persons is to make a profit. "Profit," 33 as used in this subdivision, does not include the recovery of the 34 actual costs incurred in owning and operating a vanpool vehicle, as defined in Section 668 of the Vehicle Code. 35 (i) Vehicles used exclusively to provide medical transportation,

(i) Vehicles used exclusively to provide medical transportation,
including vehicles employed to transport developmentally disabled
persons for regional centers established pursuant to Chapter 5
(commencing with Section 4620) of Division 4.5 of the Welfare
and Institutions Code.

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(i) Transportation services rendered solely within the Lake

2 Tahoe Basin, comprising that area included within the Tahoe 3 Regional Planning Compact as set forth in Section 66801 of the 4 Government Code, when the operator of the services has obtained 5 any permit required from the Tahoe Basin Transportation Authority 6 or the City of South Lake Tahoe, or both. 7 (k) Subject to Section 34507.6 of the Vehicle Code, 8 transportation service provided by the operator of an automobile 9 rental business in vehicles owned or leased by that operator, 10 without charge other than as may be included in the automobile 11 rental charges, to carry its customers to or from its office or facility 12 where rental vehicles are furnished or returned after the rental 13 period. 14 (1) Subject to Section 34507.6 of the Vehicle Code, 15 transportation service provided by the operator of a hotel, motel, 16 or other place of temporary lodging in vehicles owned or leased 17 by that operator, without charge other than as may be included in 18 the charges for lodging, between the lodging facility and an air, 19 rail, water, or bus passenger terminal or between the lodging 20 facility and any place of entertainment or commercial attraction, 21 including, but not limited to, facilities providing snow skiing. 22 Nothing in this subdivision authorizes the operator of a hotel,

motel, or other place of temporary lodging to provide any round
trip sightseeing service without a permit, as required by subdivision
(c) of Section 5384.

(m) (1) Transportation of hot air balloon ride passengers in a
balloon chase vehicle from the balloon landing site back to the
original takeoff site, provided that the balloon ride was conducted
by a balloonist who meets all of the following conditions:

30 (A) Does not fly more than a total of 30 passenger rides for 31 compensation annually.

32 (B) Does not provide any preflight ground transportation 33 services in their vehicles.

34 (C) In providing return transportation to the launch site from35 landing does not drive more than 300 miles annually.

(D) Files with the commission an exemption declaration and
proof of vehicle insurance, as prescribed by the commission,
certifying that the operator qualifies for the exemption and will
maintain minimum insurance on each vehicle of one hundred
thousand dollars (\$100,000) for injury or death of one person, three

1 hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) for injury or death of two or

2 more persons and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for

3 damage to property.

4 (2) Nothing in this subdivision authorizes the operator of a 5 commercial balloon operation to provide any round trip sightseeing 6 service without a permit, as required by subdivision (c) of Section 7 5384.

8 (n) (1) Transportation services incidental to operation of a youth 9 camp that are provided by either a nonprofit organization that 10 qualifies for tax exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal 11 Revenue Code or an organization that operates an organized camp, 12 as defined in Section 18897 of the Health and Safety Code, serving 13 youth 18 years of age or younger.

14 (2) Any transportation service described in paragraph (1) shall15 comply with all of the following requirements:

16 (A) Register as a private carrier with the commission pursuant17 to Section 4005.

(B) Participate in a pull notice system for employers of driversas prescribed in Section 1808.1 of the Vehicle Code.

(C) Ensure compliance with the annual bus terminal inspection
required by subdivision (c) of Section 34501 of the Vehicle Code.
(D) Obtain the following minimum amounts of general liability
insurance coverage for vehicles that are used to transport youth:

(i) A minimum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)
general liability insurance coverage for passenger vehicles designed
to carry up to eight passengers. For organized camps, as defined
in Section 18897 of the Health and Safety Code, an additional two
hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) general umbrella policy
that covers vehicles.

(ii) A minimum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) general
liability insurance coverage for vehicles designed to carry up to
passengers. For organized camps, as defined in Section 18897
of the Health and Safety Code, an additional five hundred thousand
dollars (\$500,000) general umbrella policy that covers vehicles.
(iii) A minimum of one million five hundred thousand dollars

36 (\$1,500,000) general liability insurance coverage for vehicles
37 designed to carry more than 15 passengers, and an additional three
38 million five hundred thousand dollars (\$3,500,000) general
39 umbrella liability insurance policy that covers vehicles.

1 SEC. 10. Section 5411.5 of the Public Utilities Code is 2 amended to read:

5411.5. (a) Whenever a peace officer, as defined in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal 5 Code, arrests a person for operation of a charter-party carrier of 6 passengers without a valid certificate or permit, the peace officer 7 may impound and retain possession of the vehicle.

8 (b) Whenever a peace officer, as defined in Chapter 4.5 9 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal 10 Code, arrests a person for operating a charter-party carrier of 11 passengers as a taxicab in violation of Chapter 8.5 (commencing 12 with Section-5451) 5451) or in violation of a local ordinance of 13 the City and County of San Francisco or its airport authority, the 14 peace officer may impound and retain possession of the vehicle.

(c) If the vehicle is seized from a person who is not the owner
of the vehicle, the impounding authority shall immediately give
notice to the owner by first-class mail.

18 (d) The vehicle shall immediately be returned to the owner if 19 the infraction or violation is not prosecuted or is dismissed, the 20 owner is found not guilty of the offense, or it is determined that 21 the vehicle was used in violation of Section 5411 without the 22 knowledge and consent of the owner. The vehicle shall be returned 23 to the owner upon payment of any fine ordered by the court. If the 24 vehicle is seized due to a violation of a person other than the owner 25 of the vehicle, the vehicle shall be returned to the owner after all 26 impoundment fees are paid. After the expiration of six weeks from 27 the final disposition of the criminal case, unless the owner is in 28 the process of making payments to the court, the impounding 29 authority may deal with the vehicle as lost or abandoned property 30 under Section 1411 of the Penal Code.

(e) At any time, a person may make a motion in superior court
for the immediate return of the vehicle on the ground that there
was no probable cause to seize it or that there is some other good
cause, as determined by the court, for the return of the vehicle. A
proceeding under this section is a limited civil case.

(f) No peace officer, however, may impound any vehicle owned
or operated by a nonprofit organization exempt from taxation
pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which
serves youth or senior citizens and provides transportation
incidental to its programs or services or a rented motor vehicle

that is being operated by a hired driver of a charter-party carrier
 of passengers that is providing hired driver service.

3 SEC. 11. Section 5412.2 of the Public Utilities Code is 4 amended to read:

5 5412.2. (a) When a person is convicted of the offense of 6 operating a taxicab without a valid permit required pursuant to 7 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section-5451), 5451) or pursuant 8 to a local ordinance of the City and County of San Francisco or 9 its airport authority, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, if the court determines the operator has the ability to pay, 10 the court shall impose a mandatory fine not exceeding two thousand 11 12 five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for a first conviction or five thousand 13 dollars (\$5,000) for a subsequent conviction.

(b) When a person is convicted of the offense of operating a
charter-party carrier of passengers without a valid certificate or
permit, in addition to any other penalties provided by law, if the
court determines the operator has the ability to pay, the court shall
impose a mandatory fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars
(\$10,000) for a first conviction or twenty-five thousand dollars
(\$25,000) for a subsequent conviction.

(c) As used in this section, "taxicab" shall have the meaning as
defined in subdivision (d) of Section 5451.4. "Taxicab" shall not
include a charter-party carrier of passengers within the meaning
of this chapter.

25 SEC. 12. Section 5413.5 of the Public Utilities Code is 26 amended to read:

27 5413.5. (a) Whenever the commission, after hearing, finds 28 that any person or corporation is operating as a charter-party carrier 29 of passengers, including a charter-party carrier operating a 30 limousine, without a valid certificate or permit, or fails to include 31 in any written or oral advertisement the number of the certificate 32 or permit required by Section 5386, the commission may impose 33 a fine of not more than seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) for each violation. The commission may assess the person 34 35 or corporation an amount sufficient to cover the reasonable expense 36 of investigation incurred by the commission. The commission may 37 assess interest on any fine or assessment imposed, to commence 38 on the day the payment of the fine or assessment becomes 39 delinquent. All fines, assessments, and interest collected shall be 40 deposited at least once each month in the General Fund.

1 (b) Whenever the commission, after hearing, finds that any 2 person or corporation is operating a charter-party carrier of 3 passengers as a taxicab without a valid permit in violation of 4 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451), 5451) or a local 5 ordinance of the City and County of San Francisco or its airport 6 authority, the commission may impose a fine of not more than five 7 thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation. The commission may assess the person or corporation an amount sufficient to cover the 8 9 reasonable expense of investigation incurred by the commission. 10 The commission may assess interest on any fine or assessment 11 imposed, to commence on the day the payment of the fine or 12 assessment becomes delinquent. All fines, assessments, and interest 13 collected shall be deposited at least once each month in the General 14 Fund. 15 SEC. 13. Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) is added 16 to Division 2 of the Public Utilities Code, to read: 17 18 Chapter 8.5. Taxicab Transportation Services Act 19 20 Article 1. General Provisions and Definitions 21 22 5451. This chapter shall be known, and may be cited, as the 23 Taxicab Transportation Services Act. 24 5451.2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except 25 as otherwise provided in Section 5451.3, this chapter shall apply 26 to taxicab transportation services provided throughout the state. 27 The commission shall regulate taxicab transportation services and 28 enforce the requirements of this chapter, and may adopt regulations 29 to further the objectives of this chapter. The Legislature finds and 30 declares that uniform regulation of taxicab transportation services 31 throughout the state constitutes a matter of statewide concern. 32 5451.3. This chapter shall not apply to taxicab transportation 33 services originating in the jurisdiction of the City and County of 34 San Francisco or at the San Francisco International Airport, 35 including taxicab carriers and taxicab drivers associated with 36 those services. Those taxicab transportation services shall remain 37 under the regulation of the City and County of San Francisco or 38 its airport authority, as the case may be.

39 5451.4. For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms40 have the following meanings:

(a) "Entity" includes a corporation, company, association, joint
 stock association, firm, partnership, individual, or any other form
 of business organization.

4 (b) "Public highway" includes every public street, road, or 5 highway in this state.

6 (c) "Motor vehicle" means a vehicle used on public highways 7 that is self-propelled.

8 (d) "Taxicab" means a passenger motor vehicle designed for 9 carrying not more than eight passengers, excluding the driver, and 10 used to carry passengers for hire as part of taxicab transportation 11 services.

(e) "Taxicab carrier" means an entity that is a permitted provider
of taxicab transportation services to passengers under this chapter.
(f) "Taxicab driver" means an individual who is a permitted

15 driver of a taxicab under this chapter.

16 (g) "Taxicab transportation services" means the provision of 17 transportation services for compensation using motor vehicles 18 designed for carrying not more than eight passengers, excluding 19 the driver, but excludes transportation services provided by a 20 charter-party carrier of passengers regulated by Chapter 8 21 (commencing with Section 5351).

(h) With respect to a motor vehicle used in taxicab transportation
services by a taxicab carrier, "owner" means the entity that is
registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles as the owner of
the motor vehicle, or that has a legal right to possession of the
motor vehicle pursuant to a lease or rental agreement.

(i) "Region" means one of the regions identified pursuant toSection 5451.6.

5451.6. The commission shall issue permits pursuant to this
chapter authorizing taxicab carriers to operate in one or more of
the following regions:

32 (a) Region 1 shall include the Counties of Del Norte, Siskiyou,

33 Modoc, Humboldt, Trinity, Shasta, Lassen, Mendocino, Tehama,

34 Plumas, Glenn, Butte, Lake, Colusa, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Yolo,

35 Sutter, Placer, Sacramento, and El Dorado.

36 (b) Region 2 shall include the Counties of Sonoma, Napa, Marin,

37 Solano, Contra Costa, San Mateo, Alameda, and Santa Clara.

38 *Region 2 shall exclude taxicab transportation services originating* 

39 at the San Francisco International Airport in the County of San

40 Mateo.

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1 (c) Region 3 shall include the City and County of San Francisco. 2 (d)3 (c) Region-4 3 shall include the Counties of San Joaquin, 4 Amador, Alpine, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mono, Merced, 5 Mariposa, San Benito, Madera, Fresno, Inyo, Kings, Tulare, and 6 Kern. 7 (e)8 (d) Region -5 4 shall include the Counties of Santa Cruz, 9 Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. 10 <del>(f)</del> 11 (e) Region-6 5 shall include the Counties of Los Angeles, San 12 Bernardino, Orange, and Riverside. 13 <del>(g)</del> (f) Region -76 shall include the Counties of San Diego and 14 15 Imperial. 16 5451.7. A taxicab carrier regulated by the City and County of 17 San Francisco or its airport authority and not subject to regulation 18 by the commission shall not be authorized to apply for a permit 19 to operate taxicab transportation services originating within any 20 of the regions regulated by the commission pursuant to Section 5451.6. 21 22 23 Article 2. Authorization to Operate as a Taxicab Carrier 24 25 5452. An entity shall not engage in taxicab transportation 26 services subject to regulation under this chapter without first 27 having obtained a taxicab carrier permit issued by the commission 28 pursuant to this chapter. 29 5452.2. The commission shall issue permits to entities to 30 operate taxicab transportation services as a taxicab carrier if 31 otherwise qualified under this chapter. Each permit shall specify the region of the state in which the taxicab carrier is authorized to 32 33 operate. Nothing in this chapter shall preclude a taxicab carrier from holding permits to operate in multiple regions. 34 35 5452.4. A taxicab carrier holding a permit for a region shall 36 not be restricted as to point of origin or destination within that 37 region. 38 5452.6. A taxicab carrier shall include the number of its permit 39 in every written, oral, or electronic advertisement of the services

40 it offers and shall comply with the signing requirements of Section

27908 of the Vehicle Code. For the purposes of this section, 1 2 "advertisement" includes, but is not limited to, the issuance of any 3 card, sign, or device to any person, the causing, permitting, or 4 allowing of the placement of any sign or marking on or in any 5 building or structure, or in any media form, including newspaper, 6 magazine, radiowave, satellite signal, or any electronic 7 transmission, or in any directory soliciting taxicab transportation services subject to this chapter. 8

9 5452.8. (a) Applications for taxicab carrier permits shall be 10 in writing and verified under oath, and shall be in the form and 11 contain the information required by the commission.

12 (b) An application for a taxicab carrier permit shall be 13 accompanied by a filing fee as follows:

14 (1) Permits (new): \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_).

15 (2) Permits (renewal): dollars (\$).

16 5452.10. (a) (1) Before a permit is issued or renewed, the 17 commission shall require the applicant to establish reasonable 18 fitness and financial responsibility to initiate and conduct or 19 continue to conduct the proposed or existing taxicab transportation 20 services. The commission shall not issue or renew a permit 21 pursuant to this chapter unless the applicant meets all of the 22 following requirements:

(A) It is financially and organizationally capable of conducting
an operation that complies with the rules and regulations of the
Department of the California Highway Patrol relating to the safe
operation of vehicles on the public highways.

(B) It is committed to observing the hours of service regulations
of state and, where applicable, federal law for all taxicab drivers,
whether employees or contractors.

30 (C) It has an inspection program in effect for its motor vehicles
31 used to provide taxicab transportation services that conforms to
32 Article 8 (commencing with Section 5458).

(D) It participates in the pull notice program pursuant to Section
1808.1 of the Vehicle Code to regularly check the driving records
of all taxicab drivers, whether employees or contractors.

36 (E) It has a safety education and training program in effect for 37 all taxicab drivers, whether employees or contractors.

38 (F) It will maintain its motor vehicles used in taxicab 39 transportation services in a safe operating condition and in 40 compliance with the Vehicle Code and with regulations contained

in Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations relative to motor
 vehicle safety.

3 (G) It has provided to the commission an address of an office 4 or terminal where documents supporting the factual matters 5 specified in the showing required by this subdivision may be 6 inspected by the commission or the Department of the California 7 Highway Patrol.

8 (H) It provides for a mandatory controlled substance and alcohol 9 testing certification program pursuant to Section 5457.22.

10 (2) With respect to subparagraphs (B) and (F) of paragraph (1), 11 the commission may base a finding on a certification by the 12 commission that an applicant has filed, with the commission, a 13 sworn declaration of ability to comply and intent to comply.

(b) In addition to the requirements in subdivision (a), taxicab
carriers shall meet all other state and, where applicable, federal
regulations as prescribed.

5452.12. (a) Every taxicab carrier shall furnish to the
commission a list, prepared under oath, of all motor vehicles used
by the carrier in taxicab transportation services during the period
since the last inspection. The commission shall furnish a copy of
the list to the taxicab carrier's insurer, if the taxicab carrier's
accident liability protection is provided by a policy of insurance.

(b) If the taxicab carrier's insurer informs the commission that
the carrier has failed to obtain insurance coverage for any vehicle
reported on the list, the commission may, in addition to any other
penalty provided in this chapter, for a first occurrence, suspend
the carrier's permit or impose a fine, or both, and, for a second or
subsequent occurrence, suspend or revoke the permit or impose a
fine, or both.

5452.14. The commission may, with or without hearing, issue
a permit under this chapter. If the commission finds that the
applicant possesses satisfactory fitness and financial responsibility
to initiate and conduct the proposed taxicab transportation services,
and will faithfully comply with the rules and regulations adopted
by the commission with respect thereto, it shall issue the permit.
5452.16. A permit, or renewal thereof, is effective for three

36 5452.16. A permit, or renewal thereof, is effective for three 37 years, unless suspended or revoked by the commission.

5452.18. No permit issued pursuant to this chapter, or rights
to conduct any of the services authorized by the permit, shall be
sold, leased, or assigned, or otherwise transferred or encumbered,

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unless authorized by the commission. A filing fee of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars
 (\$\_\_\_\_\_) shall accompany all applications for that authorization.

#### Article 3. Enforcement

6 5453. Upon receipt of a complaint containing sufficient 7 information to warrant conducting an investigation, the commission 8 shall investigate any entity that advertises or holds itself out as 9 providing services that may be reasonably considered to be taxicab 10 transportation services but that does not have a permit required by 11 this chapter. The commission, in a rulemaking or other appropriate 12 procedure, shall adopt criteria that establish the type of information, 13 if contained in a complaint, that is sufficient to warrant an 14 investigation. Pursuant to this investigation, the commission shall 15 do all of the following:

(a) Determine which entities, if any, are required to obtain a
taxicab carrier permit pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with
Section 5452) but that do not have the required permit.

(b) Inform any entity identified in subdivision (a) that the failureto obtain a permit is in violation of the law.

(c) Within 60 days of informing the entity pursuant to
subdivision (b), institute civil or criminal proceedings, or both, if
the entity continues to be in noncompliance with this chapter.

5453.2. The commission shall not issue, renew, or authorize the transfer of a taxicab carrier permit under this chapter to any entity against whom a final judgment has been entered and whose name has been transmitted to the commission pursuant to Section 3716.4 of the Labor Code, unless that judgment has been satisfied or has been discharged in accordance with the bankruptcy laws of the United States.

5453.4. (a) The commission may cancel, suspend, or revoke
a taxicab carrier permit issued pursuant to this chapter upon any
of the following grounds:

(1) The violation by the permitholder of any of the provisions
of this chapter, or of the terms of a permit issued under this chapter.
(2) The violation by the permitholder of any order, decision,
rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the
commission pursuant to this chapter.

39 (3) The conviction of a taxicab carrier of any misdemeanor40 under this chapter while holding a taxicab carrier permit issued by

1 the commission or the conviction of the carrier or its officers of a

2 felony while holding a permit issued by the commission, limited

3 to robbery, burglary, larceny, fraud, or intentional dishonesty for 4 personal gain.

5 (4) The rendition of a judgment against the taxicab carrier for 6 any penalty imposed under this chapter.

7 (5) The failure of a taxicab carrier to pay any fee imposed on 8 the carrier within the time required by the commission.

9 (6) On request of the taxicab carrier.

(7) The failure of a taxicab carrier to operate and perform
reasonable service. That failure may include repeated violations
of the Vehicle Code or of regulations contained in Title 13 of the
California Code of Regulations relative to motor vehicle safety by
employees of the taxicab carrier that support an inference of unsafe
operation or willful neglect of the public safety by the carrier.

(8) Consistent failure of the taxicab carrier to maintain its 16 17 vehicles in a safe operating condition pursuant to Article 8 18 (commencing with Section 5458) and in compliance with the Vehicle Code and with regulations contained in Title 13 of the 19 20 California Code of Regulations relative to motor vehicle safety, 21 as shown by the records of the commission, the Department of 22 Motor Vehicles, the Department of the California Highway Patrol, 23 or the carrier.

24 (9) Failure of a taxicab carrier, or of any of its employees, to 25 follow any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, 26 ordinance, or other requirement established by the governing body 27 of an airport, including solicitation practices, providing the 28 requirements are consistent with subdivision (b) of Section 5459. 29 (b) The commission may levy a civil penalty of up to seven 30 thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) upon a taxicab carrier for 31 any of the violations specified in subdivision (a), as an alternative to canceling, revoking, or suspending the carrier's permit. The 32 33 commission may also levy interest upon the civil penalty, which shall be calculated as of the date on which the civil penalty is 34 35 unpaid and delinquent. The commission shall deposit at least 36 monthly all civil penalties and interest collected pursuant to this section into the General Fund. 37

5453.6. (a) A taxicab carrier shall have and shall make
available for inspection by the commission, upon request, one of
the following:

1 (1) A certificate of workers' compensation coverage for its 2 employees issued by an admitted insurer.

3 (2) A certification of consent to self-insure issued by the Director4 of Industrial Relations.

5 (3) A statement under penalty of perjury, stating that, in its 6 operations as a taxicab carrier, it does not employ any person in 7 any manner so as to become subject to the workers' compensation 8 laws of this state.

9 (b) The workers' compensation coverage certified to under 10 paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) shall be in the form of a policy 11 that remains effective until canceled. Cancellation of the policy 12 shall require 30 days' advance notice.

(c) If, after filing the statement described in paragraph (3) of
subdivision (a), the carrier becomes subject to the workers'
compensation laws of this state, the carrier shall promptly notify
the commission that the carrier is withdrawing its statement under
paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), and shall simultaneously file the
certificate described in either paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision
(a).

5453.8. The commission may, on a complaint alleging that an entity is operating taxicab transportation services without a valid taxicab carrier permit in violation of this chapter, or on its own motion without a complaint, with or without notice of a hearing, order the entity so operating to cease and desist from that operation until the commission makes and files its decision in the matter or until further order of the commission.

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# Article 4. Trade Dress

5454. A taxicab carrier *subject to regulation under this chapter*shall not operate a motor vehicle on a public highway unless there
is displayed on the vehicle a distinctive identifying symbol in the
form prescribed by the commission. The identifying symbol shall
not be displayed on any vehicle until a permit under this chapter
has been issued to the carrier.

5454.2. The commission shall assign both trade name and trade
dress within each region for taxicab transportation services. In
doing so, the commission shall take into account taxicab carriers
operating within each region on December 31, 2016, and shall
minimize public confusion to consumers of taxicab transportation

1 services in awarding trade name and trade dress in each region.

2 The commission may assign the same or similar trade name and

3 trade dress in different regions of the state in a manner that 4 minimizes public confusion to consumers of taxicab transportation

5 services.

5454.4. A taxicab carrier shall remove all markings required
by the commission from a motor vehicle when the motor vehicle
is permanently withdrawn from service as a taxicab.

5454.6. The commission shall award initial trade name and
trade dress in each region as soon as practicable on or after January
1, 2017. In doing so, the commission shall consider all of the
following:

(a) Historic trade name and trade dress granted to licensees by
cities, counties, cities and counties, or any subdivision thereof as
submitted to the commission pursuant to Section 5454.8.

16 (b) The geographic service boundaries of the provision of 17 taxicab services before January 1, 2017.

(c) The cost to taxicab carriers of changing trade name or tradedress in accordance with the commission's order.

20 5454.8. Any-city, county, or city and city or county, or any 21 subdivision thereof, that regulates or oversees the licensure of 22 taxicab transportation services within its jurisdiction on December 23 31, 2016, shall forward to the commission licensure information 24 for each taxicab transportation service licensee within its 25 jurisdiction. This section shall not apply to the taxicab 26 transportation services exempted from this chapter pursuant to 27 Section 5451.3. The information shall include, but need not be 28 limited to, the following:

(a) The name of the licensee, including the approved "doingbusiness as" name granted to a licensee.

31 (b) Information related to trade dress or exterior markings32 granted to each licensee within the jurisdiction.

33 (c) The geographical boundaries, if any, granted to a licensee34 in the provision of taxicab transportation services.

35 (d) Any other information the commission may require to carry36 out the purposes of this chapter.

5454.10. The commission may adopt an alternate process forawarding trade name and trade dress within each region subsequent

39 to the initial award outlined in Section 5454.2, provided that the

1 alternate process shall seek to minimize public confusion to 2 consumers of taxicab transportation services in each region.

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# Article 5. Insurance

5 6 5455. The commission, in granting a permit to a taxicab carrier 7 pursuant to this chapter, shall require the taxicab carrier to procure, 8 and to continue in effect during the life of the permit, protection 9 against liability imposed by law upon the taxicab carrier for the payment of damages for personal bodily injuries, including death 10 resulting therefrom, protection against a total liability of the taxicab 11 carrier on account of bodily injuries to, or death of, more than one 12 person as a result of any one accident, and protection against 13 damage or destruction of property. The maximum requirements 14 for these assurances of protection against liability shall be no more 15 than fifty one hundred thousand dollars (\$50,000) (\$100,000) for 16 17 death and personal injury per person, one three hundred thousand 18 dollars-(\$100,000) (\$300,000) for death and personal injury per incident, and thirty fifty thousand dollars (\$30,000) (\$50,000) for 19 20 property damage.

5455.2. The protection required under Section 5455 shall be
evidenced by the deposit of any of the following with the
commission covering each motor vehicle used or to be used under
the permit applied for:

(a) A policy of insurance, issued by a company licensed to write
insurance in this state, or by nonadmitted insurers subject to Section
1763 of the Insurance Code, if the policies meet the rules
promulgated therefor by the commission.

(b) A bond of a surety company licensed to write surety bondsin this state.

31 (c) Evidence of the qualification of the taxicab carrier as a32 self-insurer as may be authorized by the commission.

5455.4. No entity holding a valid taxicab carrier permit issued
by the commission pursuant to this chapter shall be required by a
city, county, city and county, or any other local agency to provide
insurance in a manner different from that required by this article.
5455.6. The insurance requirements specified in this article
shall only be applicable to motor vehicles while providing taxicab
transportation services. When not providing those services, the

40 insurance requirements for those vehicles shall be the minimum

amounts otherwise applicable to motor vehicles not providing 1 taxicab transportation services. 2 3 5455.8. With the consent of the commission, a copy of an 4 insurance policy, certified by the company issuing it to be a true 5 copy of the original policy, or a photocopy thereof, or an electronic 6 copy thereof, or an abstract of the provisions of the policy, or a 7 certificate of insurance issued by the company issuing the policy, 8 may be filed with the commission in lieu of the original or a 9 duplicate or counterpart of the policy. 10 11 Article 6. Pricing and GPS Metering 12 5456. The commission shall not regulate either of the following 13 14 with respect to provision of taxicab transportation services: 15 (a) Fares or fees charged by taxicab carriers, including, but not 16 limited to, meter rates, gate fees, or any other charge to the consumer related to the hiring of a taxicab. 17 18 (b) The type of device used by taxicab carriers to calculate fares, 19 including the use of global positioning system metering as a form 20 of calculating fares. 21 5456.2. The commission may adopt rules requiring taxicab 22 carriers to disclose fares, fees, and other pricing structures for 23 taxicab transportation services. Any rules shall allow a taxicab 24 carrier to disclose fares, fees, or other pricing structures on its 25 Internet Web site or cellular telephone application. 26 27 Article 7. Taxicab Drivers 28 29 5457. An individual shall not be a driver providing taxicab 30 transportation service regulated by this chapter without first 31 obtaining a taxicab driver permit from the commission pursuant 32 to this article. 33 5457.2. A taxicab driver permit issued pursuant to this article 34 shall be valid in any region in this state.

5457.4. The commission shall issue a taxicab driver permit to an applicant if the applicant meets all of the following requirements:

38 (a) The applicant submits to the commission a written39 application for a taxicab driver permit.

1 (b) The applicant pays a taxicab driver permit fee as determined 2 by the commission.

3 (c) The applicant is a minimum of 18 years of age.

4 (d) The applicant possesses a current class C California driver's 5 license.

6 (e) The applicant is not afflicted with either a physical or mental
7 incapacity that would preclude the individual from safely operating
8 a taxicab and performing the duties normally associated with the
9 profession.

10 (f) The applicant passes a written exam as prescribed by the 11 commission.

12 (g) The applicant passes a background check through the 13 Department of Justice's live scan system.

14 5457.6. An applicant may be required to submit a medical report and obtain a valid medical certificate if the application, or 15 observation by the commission, indicates a physical or mental 16 17 affliction. In that situation, the applicant may be granted a temporary taxicab driver permit for 30 days pending receipt of a 18 19 valid medical certificate. Upon submittal of the valid medical certificate and its acceptance by the commission, a regular taxicab 20 21 driver permit shall be issued to the applicant.

22 5457.8. An applicant shall be denied a taxicab driver permit if any portion of the application is found to be falsified. If the 23 falsification is deemed to be willful and intentional, the applicant 24 25 shall not be allowed to reapply for a taxicab driver permit for a 26 one-year period from the time the falsification is first discovered. 27 Should a repeat offense of falsification occur, the applicant shall not be allowed to reapply for a taxicab driver permit for a . 28 seven-year period from the time the additional falsification is 29 30 discovered.

31 5457.10. An applicant who has willfully and intentionally attempted to cheat in the taxicab driver permit exam process shall 32 33 be immediately disgualified from the exam. First-time offenders 34 shall be ineligible to retake the exam for a 180-day period. Repeat 35 offenders shall be ineligible to retake the exam for a seven-year period. Test misconduct shall include, but not be limited to, using 36 37 notes or other materials that have been prohibited, looking at other 38 applicant test papers, talking to other applicants during the exam, 39 failing to stop as requested at the end of the exam period, or in any way coercing others for exam information. 40

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5457.12. While providing taxicab transportation services, a 2 taxicab driver shall have in his or her immediate possession, and 3 shall present, upon request, to a law enforcement officer, a 4 representative of the commission, or a customer, both of the 5 following: 6 (a) A valid California driver's license. 7 (b) A valid taxicab driver permit issued by the commission. 8 5457.14. A holder of a taxicab driver permit shall not drive a 9 taxicab while his or her driver's license is expired, suspended, or 10 revoked. 11 5457.16. A taxicab driver shall properly display his or her valid 12 taxicab driver permit in the taxicab in a manner as prescribed by 13 the commission. 14 5457.18. A taxicab driver shall not do any of the following: 15 (a) Knowingly allow another individual to use his or her taxicab 16 driver permit. 17 (b) Duplicate a taxicab driver permit. 18 (c) Use another person's taxicab driver permit. 19 (d) Apply for, or possess, more than one taxicab driver permit 20 issued by the commission. 21 5457.20. A holder of a taxicab driver permit that becomes 22 invalid shall destroy the permit. 23 5457.22. (a) A taxicab carrier shall do all of the following: 24 (1) Participate in a pull-notice system pursuant to Section 1808.1 25 of the Vehicle Code to regularly check the driving records of all 26 taxicab drivers employed or contracted by the carrier. 27 (2) Provide for a mandatory controlled substance and alcohol 28 testing certification program for taxicab divers drivers employed 29 or contracted by the carrier, as required by the commission. The 30 program shall not be more strict than the program adopted by the

31 commission pursuant to Section 1032.1 for transportation network 32 company drivers.

33 (b) Taxicab drivers hired or contracted by a taxicab carrier on 34 or after January 1, 2017, shall be subject to mandatory drug and 35 alcohol testing prior to employment or contracting. Drivers hired or contracted by a taxicab carrier before January 1, 2017, shall 36 37 complete a drug and alcohol test before January 1, 2018.

38 5457.24. (a) A taxicab carrier regulated pursuant to this 39 *chapter* shall not employ, or contract with, any of the following 40 persons as a taxicab driver:

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(1) A person convicted, during the preceding seven years, of 1 2 any offense relating to the use, sale, possession, or transportation 3 of narcotics, controlled substances, or addictive or dangerous drugs, 4 or of any act involving force, violence, threat threat, or intimidation 5 against persons, or of any sexual offense, or of any act involving 6 moral turpitude, including fraud or intentional dishonesty for 7 personal gain, or of any felony offense, or of any offense involving 8 the possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon, or of any offense 9 involving the solicitation or agreement to engage in or engagement 10 in any act of prostitution, or of any act of resisting, delaying, or obstructing a peace officer, public officer, or emergency medical 11 12 technician, or of theft in either degree. For the purposes of this 13 paragraph, a subsequent change of plea or vacation of verdict and 14 dismissal of charges pursuant to Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code 15 does not release the applicant from the penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense of which he or she has been convicted. 16 (2) A person required to register as a sex offender under Section 17 18 290 of the Penal Code or a person convicted of a felony involving any type of sexual offense; the manufacture, possession for sale, 19 20 transportation, or distribution of narcotics, controlled substances, 21 or addictive or dangerous drugs; force, violence, threat, or 22 intimidation against persons; kidnaping; forgery, fraud, larceny, 23 extortion, burglary, robbery, or theft; credit card fraud; possession 24 of a firearm or dangerous weapon; resisting or obstructing a peace 25 officer, public officer, or emergency medical technician; or use of 26 a vehicle for hire in the commission of a felony.

(3) A person convicted of any violation of Section 20001, 20003,
20004, 23104, or 23153 of the Vehicle Code.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (a), out-of-state convictions for
equivalent violations shall be given the same effect as in-state
convictions.

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#### Article 8. Vehicle Inspection

5458. Upon initial placement into service and annually
thereafter, a taxicab carrier shall inspect each of its motor vehicles
used for taxicab transportation services, or have each vehicle
inspected at a facility licensed by the Bureau of Automotive Repair,
and shall maintain complete documentation of each inspection.
The inspection shall cover all of the following components, and

1 each component shall, at a minimum, be in satisfactory condition

2 before a vehicle may be used in providing taxicab transportation

3 services:

- 4 (a) Foot brakes.
- 5 (b) Emergency brakes.
- 6 (c) Steering mechanism.
- 7 (d) Windshield.
- 8 (e) Rear window and other glass.
- 9 (f) Windshield wipers.
- 10 (g) Headlights.
- 11 (h) Tail lights.
- 12 (i) Turn indicator lights.
- 13 (j) Stop lights.
- 14 (k) Front seat adjustment mechanism.
- 15 (1) Doors, including opening, closing, and locking.
- 16 (m) Horn.
- 17 (n) Speedometer.
- 18 (o) Bumpers.
- 19 (p) Muffler and exhaust system.
- 20 (q) Tires.
  - (r) Interior and exterior rear view rear-view mirrors.
- 22 (s) Safety belts for the driver and passengers.
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### Article 9. Local Agencies and Airports

26 5459. (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this 27 article, article and in Section 5451.3, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, this chapter constitutes the exclusive 28 29 regulation of taxicab carriers, taxicab drivers, and taxicab 30 transportation services in this state and preempts all other 31 regulation. In that regard, a local agency may not require a license, or impose a tax or fee, for the conduct of taxicab transportation 32 33 services subject to regulation under this chapter.

(b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a local
agency from designating taxicab stands on public highways under
its jurisdiction pursuant to Section 21112 of the Vehicle Code for
use by taxicabs, or from designating other locations for taxicabs
to stop pursuant to Section 22500 of the Vehicle Code.

39 (c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the 40 governing body of an airport from adopting and enforcing

reasonable and nondiscriminatory local airport rules, regulations, . 1 and ordinances pertaining to access, use of highways, parking, 2 3 traffic control, passenger transfers and occupancy, passenger 4 solicitation practices, and the use of buildings and facilities, that are applicable to taxicab carriers operating on airport property. In 5 6 that regard, the governing body of an airport may require a taxicab 7 carrier to obtain an airport permit in order to operate taxicab 8 transportation services to or from the airport. However, the 9 governing body of an airport may not impose a fee on taxicab carriers that is based on the gross receipts of the carrier, and may 10 not impose vehicle safety, vehicle licensing, or insurance 11 requirements on taxicab carriers that are more burdensome than 12 13 those imposed by this chapter or by commission regulation pursuant to this chapter. 14

(d) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any
agreement entered into between a taxicab carrier and the governing
board of an airport pursuant to Article 4.5 (commencing with
Section 21690.5) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 9.

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#### Article 10. Violations

22 5460. Every taxicab carrier and every officer, director, agent, 23 employee, or contractor of any taxicab carrier who violates or fails 24 to comply with, or who procures, aids, or abets any violation of, 25 any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, or 26 comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, 27 demand, or requirement of the commission, or with any permit 28 issued under this chapter, or who procures, aids, or abets any 29 taxicab carrier in its failure to comply with the order, decision, 30 rule, regulation, direction, demand, requirement, or permit, is guilty 31 of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five thousand dollars 32 33 (\$5,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than 34 three months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

5460.2. Every person other than a taxicab carrier who knowingly and willfully, either individually, or acting as an officer, agent, or employee of a person other than a taxicab carrier, who violates any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission, or who procures, aids,

or abets any taxicab carrier in its violation of this chapter, or in its
 failure to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule,
 regulation, direction, demand, or requirement, is guilty of a
 misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of not less than one

thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five thousand dollars
(\$5,000) or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than

7 three months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

8 5460.4. Every taxicab carrier and every officer, director, agent, 9 employee, or contractor of any taxicab carrier who violates or fails to comply with, or who procures, aids, or abets any violation by 10 11 any taxicab carrier of, any provision of this chapter, or who fails 12 to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule, 13 regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission, 14 or with any permit issued under this chapter, or who procures, 15 aids, or abets any taxicab carrier in its failure to comply with the order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, requirement, 16 17 or permit, is subject to a civil penalty of not more than two 18 thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each offense.

19 5460.6. Every person other than a taxicab carrier who 20 knowingly and willfully, either individually, or acting as an officer, agent, or employee of a person other than a taxicab carrier, who 21 22 violates any provision of this chapter, or who fails to obey, observe, 23 or comply with any order, decision, rule, regulation, direction, 24 demand, or requirement of the commission, or who procures, aids, 25 or abets any taxicab carrier in its violation of this chapter, or in its 26 failure to obey, observe, or comply with any order, decision, rule, 27 regulation, direction, demand, or requirement, is subject to a civil 28 penalty of not more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each 29 offense.

30 5460.8. Every person who drives a taxicab in conjunction with 31 providing taxicab transportation services subject to regulation 32 under this chapter and who does not possess a valid taxicab driver permit is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine of 33 34 ) and not more than not less than dollars (\$ dollars 35 (\$ ) or by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than 36 months, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

5460.10. Every violation of this chapter or of any order,
decision, rule, regulation, direction, demand, or requirement of
the commission by any person is a separate and distinct offense

and, in case of a continuing violation, each day's continuance
 thereof is a separate and distinct offense.

5460.12. (a) Whenever a peace officer, as defined in Chapter
4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part 2 of the Penal
Code, arrests a person for the operation of a taxicab without a valid
permit, the peace officer may impound and retain possession of
the vehicle.

8 (b) If the vehicle is seized from a person who is not the owner 9 of the vehicle, the impounding authority shall immediately give 10 notice to the owner by first-class mail.

11 (c) The vehicle shall immediately be returned to the owner if 12 the violation is not prosecuted or is dismissed, the owner is found 13 not guilty of the offense, or it is determined that the vehicle was 14 used in violation of Section 5460.8 without the knowledge and 15 consent of the owner. The vehicle shall be returned to the owner 16 upon payment of any fine ordered by the court. If the vehicle is 17 seized due to a violation of a person other than the owner of the 18 vehicle, the vehicle shall be returned to the owner after all 19 impoundment fees are paid. After the expiration of six weeks from 20 the final disposition of the criminal case, unless the owner is in 21 the process of making payments to the court, the impounding 22 authority may deal with the vehicle as lost or abandoned property 23 under Section 1411 of the Penal Code.

(d) At any time, a person may make a motion in superior court
for the immediate return of the vehicle on the ground that there
was no probable cause to seize it or that there is some other good
cause, as determined by the court, for the return of the vehicle. A
proceeding under this section is a limited civil case.

5460.14. When a person is convicted of the offense of operating
a taxicab without a valid permit, in addition to any other penalties
provided by law, if the court determines the person has the ability
to pay, the court shall impose a mandatory fine not exceeding two
thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) for a first conviction or
five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for a subsequent conviction.
5460.16. Whenever the commission, after hearing, finds that

any entity is operating as a taxicab carrier without a valid permit in violation of this chapter, the commission may impose a fine of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation. The commission may assess the entity an amount sufficient to cover the reasonable expense of investigation incurred by the

1 commission. The commission may assess interest on any fine or

2 assessment imposed, to commence on the day the payment of the

3 fine or assessment becomes delinquent. All fines, assessments,
4 and interest collected shall be deposited at least once each month

5 in the General Fund.

6 SEC. 14. Section 120269 of the Public Utilities Code is 7 amended to read:

8 120269. (a) If the board licenses or regulates any transportation 9 service, pursuant to Section 120266, or any passenger jitney 10 service, pursuant to Section 120267, and the licensed or regulated service employs, or contracts with, any driver who (1) is not 11 12 required to be tested for controlled substances and alcohol pursuant to Part 382 (commencing with Section 382.101) of Title 49 of the 13 14 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1032.1 or 5457.22 of this 15 code, or Section 34520 of the Vehicle Code, and (2) is not exempted under Section 34520 of the Vehicle Code, the board 16 17 shall adopt, by ordinance or resolution, a mandatory controlled 18 substance and alcohol testing certification program for those 19 drivers.

(b) The program adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall meet
substantially the requirements set forth in paragraph (3) of
subdivision (b) of Section 53075.5 of the Government Code, as
that paragraph read on December 31, 2016.

(c) Evidence derived from a positive test result collected
pursuant to the program adopted under subdivision (a) shall not
be admissible in a criminal prosecution concerning unlawful
possession, sale, or distribution of controlled substances.

28 SEC. 15. Section 1808.1 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 29 read:

30 1808.1. (a) The prospective employer of a driver who drives 31 a vehicle specified in subdivision (k) shall obtain a report showing 32 the driver's current public record as recorded by the department. 33 For purposes of this subdivision, a report is current if it was issued less than 30 days prior to the date the employer employs the driver. 34 35 The report shall be reviewed, signed, and dated by the employer 36 and maintained at the employer's place of business until receipt of the pull-notice system report pursuant to subdivisions (b) and 37 38 (c). These reports shall be presented upon request to an authorized 39 representative of the Department of the California Highway Patrol 40 during regular business hours.

1 (b) The employer of a driver who drives a vehicle specified in 2 subdivision (k) shall participate in a pull-notice system, which is 3 a process for the purpose of providing the employer with a report 4 showing the driver's current public record as recorded by the 5 department, and any subsequent convictions, failures to appear, 6 accidents, driver's license suspensions, driver's license revocations, or any other actions taken against the driving privilege or 7 8 certificate, added to the driver's record while the employer's 9 notification request remains valid and uncanceled. As used in this 10 section, participation in the pull-notice system means obtaining a requester code and enrolling all employed drivers who drive a 11 12 vehicle specified in subdivision (k) under that requester code.

13 (c) The employer of a driver of a vehicle specified in subdivision 14 (k) shall, additionally, obtain a periodic report from the department 15 at least every 12 months. The employer shall verify that each 16 employee's driver's license has not been suspended or revoked, 17 the employee's traffic violation point count, and whether the 18 employee has been convicted of a violation of Section 23152 or 19 23153. The report shall be signed and dated by the employer and 20 maintained at the employer's principal place of business. The 21 report shall be presented upon demand to an authorized 22 representative of the Department of the California Highway Patrol 23 during regular business hours.

(d) Upon the termination of a driver's employment, the employer
shall notify the department to discontinue the driver's enrollment
in the pull-notice system.

(e) For the purposes of the pull-notice system and periodic report
process required by subdivisions (b) and (c), an owner, other than
an owner-operator as defined in Section 34624, and an employer
who drives a vehicle described in subdivision (k) shall be enrolled
as if he or she were an employee. A family member and a volunteer
driver who drives a vehicle described in subdivision (k) shall also
be enrolled as if he or she were an employee.

(f) An employer who, after receiving a driving record pursuant to this section, employs or continues to employ as a driver a person against whom a disqualifying action has been taken regarding his or her driving privilege or required driver's certificate, is guilty of a public offense, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by confinement in a county jail for not more than six months, by

1 a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both2 that confinement and fine.

3 (g) As part of its inspection of bus maintenance facilities and 4 terminals required at least once every 13 months pursuant to 5 subdivision (c) of Section 34501, the Department of the California 6 Highway Patrol shall determine whether each transit operator, as 7 defined in Section 99210 of the Public Utilities Code, is then in 8 compliance with this section and Section 12804.6, and shall certify 9 each operator found to be in compliance. Funds shall not be allocated pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 99200) 10 11 of Part 11 of Division 10 of the Public Utilities Code to a transit 12 operator that the Department of the California Highway Patrol has 13 not certified pursuant to this section.

14 (h) (1) A request to participate in the pull-notice system 15 established by this section shall be accompanied by a fee 16 determined by the department to be sufficient to defray the entire 17 actual cost to the department for the notification service. For the 18 receipt of subsequent reports, the employer shall also be charged 19 a fee established by the department pursuant to Section 1811. An 20 employer who qualifies pursuant to Section 1812 shall be exempt 21 from any fee required pursuant to this section. Failure to pay the 22 fee shall result in automatic cancellation of the employer's 23 participation in the notification services.

(2) A regularly organized fire department, having official
recognition of the city, county, city and county, or district in which
the department is located, shall participate in the pull-notice
program and shall not be subject to the fee established pursuant
to this subdivision.

(3) The Board of Pilot Commissioners for Monterey Bay and
the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun, and its port
agent shall participate in the pull-notice system established by this
section, subject to Section 1178.5 of the Harbors and Navigation
Code, and shall not be subject to the fees established pursuant to
this subdivision.

(i) The department, as soon as feasible, may establish an
automatic procedure to provide the periodic reports to an employer
by mail or via an electronic delivery method, as required by
subdivision (c), on a regular basis without the need for individual
requests.

1 (i) (1) The employer of a driver who is employed as a casual 2 driver is not required to enter that driver's name in the pull-notice 3 system, as otherwise required by subdivision (a). However, the 4 employer of a casual driver shall be in possession of a report of 5 the driver's current public record as recorded by the department, 6 prior to allowing a casual driver to drive a vehicle specified in 7 subdivision (k). A report is current if it was issued less than six 8 months prior to the date the employer employs the driver.

9 (2) For the purposes of this subdivision, a driver is employed 10 as a casual driver when the employer has employed the driver less 11 than 30 days during the preceding six months. "Casual driver" 12 does not include a driver who operates a vehicle that requires a 13 passenger transportation endorsement.

14 (k) This section applies to a vehicle for the operation of which 15 the driver is required to have a class A or class B driver's license, a class C license with any endorsement issued pursuant to Section 16 17 15278, a class C license issued pursuant to Section 12814.7, or a 18 certificate issued pursuant to Section 12517, 12519, 12520, 12523, 12523.5, or 12527, a passenger vehicle having a seating capacity 19 20 of not more than 10 persons, including the driver, operated for 21 compensation by a charter-party carrier of passengers or passenger 22 stage corporation pursuant to a certificate of public convenience 23 and necessity or a permit issued by the Public Utilities 24 Commission, or a taxicab as defined in subdivision (d) (b) of 25 Section 545.14 of the Public Utilities Code. 27908.

(*l*) This section shall not be construed to change the definition
of "employer," "employee," or "independent contractor" for any
purpose.

(m) A motor carrier who contracts with a person to drive a
vehicle described in subdivision (k) that is owned by, or leased to,
that motor carrier, shall be subject to subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d),
(f), (j), (k), and (l) and the employer obligations in those
subdivisions.

34 SEC. 16. Section 12523.6 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 35 read:

12523.6. (a) (1) On and after March 1, 1998, no person who
is employed primarily as a driver of a motor vehicle that is used
for the transportation of persons with developmental disabilities,
as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 4512 of the Welfare and
Institutions Code, shall operate that motor vehicle unless that

1 person has in his or her possession a valid driver's license of the

2 appropriate class and a valid special driver certificate issued by3 the department.

4 (2) This subdivision only applies to a person who is employed 5 by a business, a nonprofit organization, or a state or local public 6 agency.

7 (b) The special driver certificate shall be issued only to an applicant who has cleared a criminal history background check by 9 the Department of Justice and, if applicable, by the Federal Bureau 10 of Investigation.

(1) In order to determine the applicant's suitability as the driver 11 12 of a vehicle used for the transportation of persons with 13 developmental disabilities, the Department of the California 14 Highway Patrol shall require the applicant to furnish to that 15 department, on a form provided or approved by that department 16 for submission to the Department of Justice, a full set of 17 fingerprints sufficient to enable a criminal background 18 investigation.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (3), an applicant shall
furnish to the Department of the California Highway Patrol
evidence of having resided in this state for seven consecutive years
immediately prior to the date of application for the certificate.

23 (3) If an applicant is unable to furnish the evidence required 24 under paragraph (2), the Department of the California Highway 25 Patrol shall require the applicant to furnish an additional full set 26 of fingerprints. That department shall submit those fingerprint 27 cards to the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice 28 shall, in turn, submit the additional full set of fingerprints required 29 under this paragraph to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a 30 national criminal history record check.

31 (4) Applicant fingerprint forms shall be processed and returned 32 to the area office of the Department of the California Highway 33 Patrol from which they originated not later than 15 working days from the date on which the fingerprint forms were received by the 34 35 Department of Justice, unless circumstances, other than the 36 administrative duties of the Department of Justice, warrant further 37 investigation. Upon implementation of an electronic fingerprinting 38 system with terminals located statewide and managed by the 39 Department of Justice, the Department of Justice shall ascertain

the information required pursuant to this subdivision within three
 working days.

(5) The applicant shall pay, in addition to the fees authorized
in Section 2427, a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for an original
certificate and twelve dollars (\$12) for the renewal of that
certificate to the Department of the California Highway Patrol.

7 (c) A certificate issued under this section shall not be deemed
8 a certification to operate a particular vehicle that otherwise requires
9 a driver's license or endorsement for a particular class under this
10 code.

(d) On or after March 1, 1998, no person who operates a
business or a nonprofit organization or agency shall employ a
person who is employed primarily as a driver of a motor vehicle
for hire that is used for the transportation of persons with
developmental disabilities unless the employed person operates
the motor vehicle in compliance with subdivision (a).

(e) Nothing in this section precludes an employer of persons
who are occasionally used as drivers of motor vehicles for the
transportation of persons with developmental disabilities from
requiring those persons, as a condition of employment, to obtain
a special driver certificate pursuant to this section or precludes any
volunteer driver from applying for a special driver certificate.

(f) As used in this section, a person is employed primarily as *a*driver if that person performs at least 50 percent of his or her time
worked including, but not limited to, time spent assisting persons
onto and out of the vehicle, or at least 20 hours a week, whichever
is less, as a compensated driver of a motor vehicle for hire for the
transportation of persons with developmental disabilities.

29 (g) This section does not apply to any person who has 30 successfully completed a background investigation prescribed by law, including, but not limited to, health care transport vehicle 31 32 operators, or to the operator of a taxicab regulated pursuant to 33 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the 34 Public Utilities Code. This section does not apply to a person who 35 holds a valid certificate, other than a farm labor vehicle driver 36 certificate, issued under Section 12517.4 or 12527. This section 37 does not apply to a driver who provides transportation on a 38 noncommercial basis to persons with developmental disabilities. 39 SEC. 17. Section 16500 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 40 read:

1 16500. Every owner of a vehicle used in the transportation of 2 passengers for hire, when the operation of the vehicle is not subject 3 to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission, shall maintain, 4 whenever he or she may be engaged in conducting those operations, 5 proof of financial responsibility resulting from the ownership or 6 operation of the vehicle and arising by reason of personal injury 7 to, or death of, any one person, of at least fifteen thousand dollars 8 (\$15,000), and, subject to the limit of fifteen thousand dollars 9 (\$15,000) for each person injured or killed, of at least thirty 10 thousand dollars (\$30,000) for the injury to, or the death of, two 11 or more persons in any one accident, and for damages to property 12 of at least five thousand dollars (\$5,000) resulting from any one 13 accident. Proof of financial responsibility may be maintained by 14 either:

15 (a) Being insured under a motor vehicle liability policy against16 that liability.

(b) Obtaining a bond of the same kind, and containing the sameprovisions, as those bonds specified in Section 16434.

(c) By depositing with the department thirty-five thousand
dollars (\$35,000), which amount shall be deposited in a special
deposit account with the Controller for the purpose of this section.

22 (d) Qualifying as a self-insurer under Section 16053.

The department shall return the deposit to the person entitled thereto when he or she is no longer required to maintain proof of financial responsibility as required by this section or upon his or her death.

27 A taxicab carrier regulated by the City and County of San 28 Francisco or its airport authority shall comply with the insurance

29 requirements of Section 5455 of the Public Utilities Code.

30 SEC. 18. Section 21100 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 31 read:

32 21100. Local authorities may adopt rules and regulations by33 ordinance or resolution regarding all of the following matters:

34 (a) Regulating or prohibiting processions or assemblages on the35 highways.

36 (b) Regulating traffic by means of traffic officers.

37 (c) Regulating traffic by means of official traffic control devices38 meeting the requirements of Section 21400.

39 (d) (1) Regulating traffic by means of a person given temporary40 or permanent appointment for that duty by the local authority when

1 official traffic control devices are disabled or otherwise inoperable,

2 at the scenes of accidents or disasters, or at locations as may require3 traffic direction for orderly traffic flow.

4 (2) A person shall not be appointed pursuant to this subdivision 5 unless and until the local authority has submitted to the 6 commissioner or to the chief law enforcement officer exercising 7 jurisdiction in the enforcement of traffic laws within the area in 8 which the person is to perform the duty, for review, a proposed 9 program of instruction for the training of a person for that duty, 10 and unless and until the commissioner or other chief law enforcement officer approves the proposed program. The 11 commissioner or other chief law enforcement officer shall approve 12 13 a proposed program if he or she reasonably determines that the 14 program will provide sufficient training for persons assigned to 15 perform the duty described in this subdivision.

(e) Regulating traffic at the site of road or street construction
or maintenance by persons authorized for that duty by the local
authority.

19 (f) (1) Licensing and regulating the operation of tow truck 20 service or tow truck drivers whose principal place of business or employment is within the jurisdiction of the local authority, 21 22 excepting the operation and operators of any auto dismantlers' tow 23 vehicle licensed under Section 11505 or any tow truck operated 24 by a repossessing agency licensed under Chapter 11 (commencing 25 with Section 7500) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions 26 Code and its registered employees.

27 (2) The Legislature finds that the safety and welfare of the general public is promoted by permitting local authorities to 28 29 regulate tow truck service companies and operators by requiring 30 licensure, insurance, and proper training in the safe operation of 31 towing equipment, thereby ensuring against towing mistakes that 32 may lead to violent confrontation, stranding motorists in dangerous 33 situations, impeding the expedited vehicle recovery, and wasting 34 state and local law enforcement's limited resources.

35 (3) This subdivision does not limit the authority of a city or city36 and county pursuant to Section 12111.

37 (g) Operation of bicycles, and, as specified in Section 21114.5,

electric carts by physically disabled persons, or persons 50 yearsof age or older, on public sidewalks.

1 (h) Providing for the appointment of nonstudent school crossing

2 guards for the protection of persons who are crossing a street or

3 highway in the vicinity of a school or while returning thereafter

4 to a place of safety.

5 (i) Regulating the methods of deposit of garbage and refuse in 6 streets and highways for collection by the local authority or by 7 any person authorized by the local authority.

8 (j) (1) Regulating cruising.

9 (2) The ordinance or resolution adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall regulate cruising, which is the repetitive driving 10 11 of a motor vehicle past a traffic control point in traffic that is congested at or near the traffic control point, as determined by the 12 13 ranking peace officer on duty within the affected area, within a specified time period and after the vehicle operator has been given 14 an adequate written notice that further driving past the control 15 point will be a violation of the ordinance or resolution. 16

(3) A person is not in violation of an ordinance or resolutionadopted pursuant to this subdivision unless both of the followingapply:

(A) That person has been given the written notice on a previous
driving trip past the control point and then again passes the control
point in that same time interval.

(B) The beginning and end of the portion of the street subject
to cruising controls are clearly identified by signs that briefly and
clearly state the appropriate provisions of this subdivision and the
local ordinance or resolution on cruising.

(k) Regulating or authorizing the removal by peace officers of
vehicles unlawfully parked in a fire lane, as described in Section
22500.1, on private property. A removal pursuant to this
subdivision shall be consistent, to the extent possible, with the
procedures for removal and storage set forth in Chapter 10
(commencing with Section 22650).

(1) Regulating mobile billboard advertising displays, as defined 33 in Section 395.5, including the establishment of penalties, which 34 35 may include, but are not limited to, removal of the mobile billboard advertising display, civil penalties, and misdemeanor criminal 36 penalties, for a violation of the ordinance or resolution. The 37 38 ordinance or resolution may establish a minimum distance that a 39 mobile billboard advertising display shall be moved after a 40 specified time period.

1 (m) Licensing and regulating the operation of pedicabs for hire, 2 as defined in Section 467.5, and operators of pedicabs for hire, 3 including requiring one or more of the following documents: 4

(1) A valid California driver's license.

5 (2) Proof of successful completion of a bicycle safety training 6 course certified by the League of American Bicyclists or an 7 equivalent organization as determined by the local authority.

8 (3) A valid California identification card and proof of successful 9 completion of the written portion of the California driver's license 10 examination administered by the department. The department shall 11 administer, without charging a fee, the original driver's license 12 written examination on traffic laws and signs to a person who 13 states that he or she is, or intends to become, a pedicab operator, 14 and who holds a valid California identification card or has 15 successfully completed an application for a California identification 16 card. If the person achieves a passing score on the examination, 17 the department shall issue a certificate of successful completion 18 of the examination, bearing the person's name and identification 19 card number. The certificate shall not serve in lieu of successful 20 completion of the required examination administered as part of 21 any subsequent application for a driver's license. The department 22 is not required to enter the results of the examination into the 23 computerized record of the person's identification card or otherwise retain a record of the examination or results. 24

25 (n) (1) This section does not authorize a local authority to enact 26 or enforce an ordinance or resolution that establishes a violation 27 if a violation for the same or similar conduct is provided in this 28 code, nor does it authorize a local authority to enact or enforce an 29 ordinance or resolution that assesses a fine, penalty, assessment, 30 or fee for a violation if a fine, penalty, assessment, or fee for a 31 violation involving the same or similar conduct is provided in this 32 code.

33 (2) This section does not preclude a local authority from enacting 34 parking ordinances pursuant to existing authority in Chapter 9 35 (commencing with Section 22500) of Division 11.

36 (o) (1) Regulating advertising signs on motor vehicles parked or left standing upon a public street. The ordinance or resolution 37 38 may establish a minimum distance that the advertising sign shall 39 be moved after a specified time period.

40 (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any of the following:

1 (A) Advertising signs that are permanently affixed to the body 2 of, an integral part of, or a fixture of a motor vehicle for permanent

decoration, identification, or display and that do not extend beyondthe overall length, width, or height of the vehicle.

5 (B) If the license plate frame is installed in compliance with 6 Section 5201, paper advertisements issued by a dealer contained 7 within that license plate frame or any advertisements on that license 8 plate frame.

9 (3) As used in paragraph (2), "permanently affixed" means any 10 of the following:

11 (A) Painted directly on the body of a motor vehicle.

12 (B) Applied as a decal on the body of a motor vehicle.

(C) Placed in a location on the body of a motor vehicle that was
specifically designed by a vehicle manufacturer as defined in
Section 672 and licensed pursuant to Section 11701, in compliance
with both state and federal law or guidelines, for the express
purpose of containing an advertising sign.

18 SEC. 19. Section 21100.4 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 19 read:

20 21100.4. (a) (1) A magistrate presented with the affidavit of 21 a peace officer establishing reasonable cause to believe that a 22 vehicle, described by vehicle type and license number, is being 23 operated as a taxicab or other passenger vehicle for hire in violation 24 of Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of 25 the Public Utilities Code or in violation of an ordinance of the 26 City and County of San Francisco or its airport authority shall 27 issue a warrant or order authorizing the peace officer to 28 immediately seize and cause the removal of the vehicle.

29 (2) The warrant or court order may be entered into a 30 computerized database.

31 (3) A vehicle so impounded may be impounded for a period not32 to exceed 30 days.

(4) The impounding agency, within two working days of 33 34 impoundment, shall send a notice by certified mail, return receipt 35 requested, to the legal owner of the vehicle, at an address obtained 36 from the department, informing the owner that the vehicle has 37 been impounded and providing the owner with a copy of the 38 warrant or court order. Failure to notify the legal owner within 39 two working days shall prohibit the impounding agency from 40 charging for more than 15 days' impoundment when a legal owner

1<sup>°</sup> redeems the impounded vehicle. The law enforcement agency shall

2 be open to issue a release to the registered owner or legal owner,

3 or the agent of either, whenever the agency is open to serve the

4 public for regular, nonemergency business.

5 (b) (1) An impounding agency shall release a vehicle to the 6 registered owner or his or her agent prior to the end of the 7 impoundment period and without the permission of the magistrate 8 authorizing the vehicle's seizure under any of the following 9 circumstances:

10 (A) When the vehicle is a stolen vehicle.

11 (B) When the vehicle was seized under this section for an 12 offense that does not authorize the seizure of the vehicle.

13 (C) When the vehicle is a rental car.

(2) A vehicle may not be released under this subdivision, except
upon presentation of the registered owner's or agent's currently
valid permit to operate the vehicle under the requirements of
Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the
Public Utilities Code, Code or an ordinance of the City and County
of San Francisco or its airport authority, and proof of current
vehicle registration, or upon order of the court.

(c) (1) Whenever a vehicle is impounded under this section,
the magistrate ordering the storage shall provide the vehicle's
registered and legal owners of record, or their agents, with the
opportunity for a poststorage hearing to determine the validity of
the storage.

(2) A notice of the storage shall be mailed or personally
delivered to the registered and legal owners within 48 hours after
issuance of the warrant or court order, excluding weekends and
holidays, by the person or agency executing the warrant or court
order, and shall include all of the following information:

31 (A) The name, address, and telephone number of the agency32 providing the notice.

(B) The location of the place of storage and a description of the
vehicle, which shall include, if available, the name or make, the
manufacturer, the license plate number, and the mileage of the
vehicle.

37 (C) A copy of the warrant or court order and the peace officer's38 affidavit, as described in subdivision (a).

39 (D) A statement that, in order to receive their poststorage 40 hearing, the owners, or their agents, are required to request the

1 hearing from the magistrate issuing the warrant or court order in

2 person, in writing, or by telephone, within 10 days of the date of3 the notice.

4 (3) The poststorage hearing shall be conducted within two court 5 days after receipt of the request for the hearing.

6 (4) At the hearing, the magistrate may order the vehicle released
7 if he or she finds any of the circumstances described in subdivision
8 (b) or (e) that allow release of a vehicle by the impounding agency.

9 (5) Failure of either the registered or legal owner, or his or her 10 agent, to request, or to attend, a scheduled hearing satisfies the 11 poststorage hearing requirement.

12 (6) The agency employing the peace officer who caused the 13 magistrate to issue the warrant or court order shall be responsible 14 for the costs incurred for towing and storage if it is determined in 15 the poststorage hearing that reasonable grounds for the storage are 16 not established.

(d) The registered owner or his or her agent is responsible for
all towing and storage charges related to the impoundment, and
any administrative charges authorized under Section 22850.5.

(e) A vehicle removed and seized under subdivision (a) shall
be released to the legal owner of the vehicle or the legal owner's
agent prior to the end of the impoundment period and without the
permission of the magistrate authorizing the seizure of the vehicle
if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The legal owner is a motor vehicle dealer, bank, credit union,
acceptance corporation, or other licensed financial institution
legally operating in this state or is another person, not the registered
owner, holding a security interest in the vehicle.

29 (2) (A) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent pays all 30 towing and storage fees related to the seizure of the vehicle. A lien 31 sale processing fee shall not be charged to the legal owner who 32 redeems the vehicle prior to the 15th day of impoundment. Neither 33 the impounding authority nor any person having possession of the 34 vehicle shall collect from the legal owner of the type specified in 35 paragraph (1), or the legal owner's agent, any administrative 36 charges imposed pursuant to Section 22850.5 unless the legal 37 owner voluntarily requested a poststorage hearing.

(B) A person operating or in charge of a storage facility where
vehicles are stored pursuant to this section shall accept a valid
bank credit card or cash for payment of towing, storage, and related

fees by a legal or registered owner or the owner's agent claiming
 the vehicle. A credit card shall be in the name of the person
 presenting the card. "Credit card" means "credit card" as defined
 in subdivision (a) of Section 1747.02 of the Civil Code, except,
 for the purposes of this section, credit card does not include a credit

6 card issued by a retail seller.7 (C) A person operating or in

7 (C) A person operating or in charge of a storage facility 8 described in subparagraph (B) who violates subparagraph (B) shall 9 be civilly liable to the owner of the vehicle or to the person who 10 tendered the fees for four times the amount of the towing, storage, 11 and related fees, but not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500).

12 (D) A person operating or in charge of a storage facility 13 described in subparagraph (B) shall have sufficient funds on the 14 premises of the primary storage facility during normal business 15 hours to accommodate, and make change in, a reasonable monetary 16 transaction.

(E) Credit charges for towing and storage services shall comply
with Section 1748.1 of the Civil Code. Law enforcement agencies
may include the costs of providing for payment by credit when
making agreements with towing companies on rates.

(3) (A) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent presents to 21 the law enforcement agency or impounding agency, or any person 22 acting on behalf of those agencies, a copy of the assignment, as 23 24 defined in subdivision (b) of Section 7500.1 of the Business and 25 Professions Code; a release from the one responsible governmental agency, only if required by the agency; a government-issued 26 27 photographic identification card; and any one of the following as 28 determined by the legal owner or the legal owner's agent: a 29 certificate of repossession for the vehicle, a security agreement 30 for the vehicle, or title, whether paper or electronic, showing proof of legal ownership for the vehicle. The law enforcement agency, 31 32 impounding agency, or any other governmental agency, or any 33 person acting on behalf of those agencies, shall not require the presentation of any other documents. 34

35 (B) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent presents to the 36 person in possession of the vehicle, or any person acting on behalf 37 of the person in possession, a copy of the assignment, as defined 38 in subdivision (b) of Section 7500.1 of the Business and 39 Professions Code; a release from the one responsible governmental 40 agency, only if required by the agency; a government-issued

photographic identification card; and any one of the following as
 determined by the legal owner or the legal owner's agent: a
 certificate of repossession for the vehicle, a security agreement
 for the vehicle, or title, whether paper or electronic, showing proof
 of legal ownership for the vehicle. The person in possession of the
 vehicle, or any person acting on behalf of the person in possession,
 shall not require the presentation of any other documents.

8 (C) All presented documents may be originals, photocopies, or 9 facsimile copies, or may be transmitted electronically. The law 10 enforcement agency, impounding agency, or any person in 11 possession of the vehicle, or anyone acting on behalf of them, shall 12 not require any documents to be notarized. The law enforcement 13 agency, impounding agency, or any person acting on behalf of 14 those agencies, may require the agent of the legal owner to produce 15 a photocopy or facsimile copy of its repossession agency license 16 or registration issued pursuant to Chapter 11 (commencing with 17 Section 7500) of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code, 18 or to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the law enforcement 19 agency, impounding agency, or any person in possession of the 20 vehicle, or anyone acting on behalf of them, that the agent is 21 exempt from licensure pursuant to Section 7500.2 or 7500.3 of the 22 Business and Professions Code.

23 (D) An administrative cost authorized under subdivision (a) of 24 Section 22850.5 shall not be charged to the legal owner of the type 25 specified in paragraph (1) who redeems the vehicle unless the legal 26 owner voluntarily requests a poststorage hearing. A city, county, 27 city and county, or state agency shall not require a legal owner or 28 a legal owner's agent to request a poststorage hearing as a 29 requirement for release of the vehicle to the legal owner or the 30 legal owner's agent. The law enforcement agency, impounding 31 agency, or any other governmental agency, or any person acting 32 on behalf of those agencies, shall not require any documents other 33 than those specified in this paragraph. The law enforcement agency, 34 impounding agency, or other governmental agency, or any person 35 acting on behalf of those agencies, may not require any documents 36 to be notarized. The legal owner or the legal owner's agent shall 37 be given a copy of any documents he or she is required to sign, 38 except for a vehicle evidentiary hold logbook. The law enforcement 39 agency, impounding agency, or any person acting on behalf of 40 those agencies, or any person in possession of the vehicle, may

photocopy and retain the copies of any documents presented by
 the legal owner or legal owner's agent.

3 (4) A failure by a storage facility to comply with any applicable
4 conditions set forth in this subdivision shall not affect the right of
5 the legal owner or the legal owner's agent to retrieve the vehicle,
6 provided all conditions required of the legal owner or legal owner's
7 agent under this subdivision are satisfied.

8 (f) (1) A legal owner or the legal owner's agent that obtains 9 release of the vehicle pursuant to subdivision (e) shall not release 10 the vehicle to the registered owner of the vehicle or the person 11 who was listed as the registered owner when the vehicle was 12 impounded or any agents of the registered owner until the 13 termination of the impoundment period.

(2) The legal owner or the legal owner's agent shall not 14 15 relinquish the vehicle to the registered owner or the person who was listed as the registered owner when the vehicle was impounded 16 17 until the registered owner or that owner's agent presents his or her 18 valid driver's license or valid temporary driver's license, and an operator's permit that is in compliance with the requirements of 19 20 Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the 21 Public Utilities Code, Code or an ordinance of the City and County 22 of San Francisco or its airport authority, to the legal owner or the legal owner's agent. The legal owner or the legal owner's agent 23 24 or the person in possession of the vehicle shall make every 25 reasonable effort to ensure that the license and permit presented 26 are valid and possession of the vehicle will not be given to the 27 driver who was involved in the original impoundment proceeding 28 until the expiration of the impoundment period.

(3) Prior to relinquishing the vehicle, the legal owner may
require the registered owner to pay all towing and storage charges
related to the impoundment and the administrative charges
authorized under Section 22850.5 that were incurred by the legal
owner in connection with obtaining the custody of the vehicle.

(4) Any legal owner who knowingly releases or causes the release of a vehicle to a registered owner or the person in possession of the vehicle at the time of the impoundment or any agent of the registered owner in violation of this subdivision shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a civil penalty in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

1 (5) The legal owner, registered owner, or person in possession 2 of the vehicle shall not change or attempt to change the name of 3 the legal owner or the registered owner on the records of the 4 department until the vehicle is released from the impoundment.

5 (g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the 6 registered owner and not the legal owner shall remain responsible 7 for any towing and storage charges related to the impoundment 8 and the administrative charges authorized under Section 22850.5 9 and any parking fines, penalties, and administrative fees incurred 10 by the registered owner.

11 (h) The law enforcement agency and the impounding agency, including any storage facility acting on behalf of the law 12 13 enforcement agency or impounding agency, shall comply with this. section and shall not be liable to the registered owner for the 14 15 improper release of the vehicle to the legal owner or the legal 16 owner's agent if the release complies with this section. The legal 17 owner shall indemnify and hold harmless a storage facility from 18 any claims arising out of the release of the vehicle to the legal 19 owner or the legal owner's agent and from any damage to the 20 vehicle after its release, including the reasonable costs associated 21 with defending any such claims. A law enforcement agency shall 22 not refuse to issue a release to a legal owner or the agent of a legal 23 owner on the grounds that it previously issued a release.

24 SEC. 20. Section 27908 of the Vehicle Code is amended to 25 read:

26 27908. (a) In every taxicab operated in this state there shall 27 be a sign of heavy material, not smaller than 6 inches by 4 inches, 28 or such other size as the Public Utilities Commission Commission, 29 or other regulating agency pursuant to Section 5451.3 of the Public 30 Utilities Code, provides for other notices or signs required to be 31 in every taxicab, securely attached and clearly displayed in view 32 of the passenger at all times, providing in letters as large as the 33 size of the sign will reasonably allow, all of the following 34 information:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the applicable
unit of the Public Utilities Commission *or other regulating agency*that regulates the operation of the taxicab.

38 (2) The name, address, and telephone number of the taxicab 39 carrier that has been issued a permit to provide taxicab

transportation services by the Public Utilities Commission.
 Commission or other regulating agency.

3 (b) As used in this section, "taxicab" means a passenger motor 4 vehicle designed for carrying not more than eight persons, 5 excluding the driver, and used to carry passengers for hire as part 6 of taxicab transportation services regulated pursuant to Chapter 7 8.5 (commencing with Section 5451) of Division 2 of the Public 8 Utilities-Code. Code or by another regulating agency pursuant to Section 5451.3 of the Public Utilities Code. "Taxicab" shall not 9 include a charter-party carrier of passengers within the meaning 10of the Passenger Charter-party Carriers' Act (Chapter 8 11 (commencing with Section 5351) of Division 2 of the Public 12 13 Utilities Code.) Code).

14 SEC. 21. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution for 15 16 certain costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school 17 district because, in that regard, this act creates a new crime or 18 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty 19 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of 20 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California 21 . 22 Constitution. 23 However, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that

this act contains other costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made

26 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division

27 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

# Carroll, John (BOS)

| From:    | Board of Supervisors, (BOS)                    |
|----------|--|
| Sent:    | Thursday, June 23, 2016 1:46 PM                |
| То:      | BOS Legislation, (BOS)                         |
| Subject: | File 160696 FW: AB 650: SFMTA and SFO Concerns |
| -        |  |

Categories: 160696

From: Tara Zimmerman [mailto:tara984@icloud.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2016 12:10 PM

To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) < board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>

Cc: Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; Campos, David (BOS) <david.campos@sfgov.org>; Mar, Eric (BOS) <eric.mar@sfgov.org>; Kim, Jane (BOS) <jane.kim@sfgov.org>; Avalos, John (BOS) <john.avalos@sfgov.org>; Tang, Katy (BOS) <katy.tang@sfgov.org>; Breed, London (BOS) <london.breed@sfgov.org>; Cohen, Malia (BOS) <mark farrell@sfgov.org>; Yao, Norman (BOS) concentrel

<malia.cohen@sfgov.org>; Farrell, Mark (BOS) <mark.farrell@sfgov.org>; Yee, Norman (BOS) <norman.yee@sfgov.org>; Wiener, Scott <scott.wiener@sfgov.org>

Subject: Fwd: AB 650: SFMTA and SFO Concerns

When you vote on Supervisor Peskin's resolution [160696] next Tuesday to amend or oppose AB 650, please keep the following very cogent concerns of both SFMTA and SFO in mind. I've attached their issues in the forwarded portion below.

Of special importance are the possible unintended consequences of AB 650, including San Francisco being stripped of the right to regulate tour bus companies, shuttle buses, jitneys, etc. You can read more about these ramifications in the technical concerns section.

Please PASS Supervisor Peskin's resolution.

Respectfully, Tara Housman SFMTA Taxi Task Force member

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: SFTaxi <<u>SFTaxi@sfmta.com</u>> Date: June 13, 2016 at 10:16:45 AM PDT To: Undisclosed recipients: ; Subject: FW: AB 650: SFMTA and SFO Concerns

Dear Taxi Task Force Members,

Per your request at the last TTF meeting, I am forwarding the SFMTA's and SFO's concerns with AB 650:

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) and San Francisco International Airport (SFO) are in alignment with the stated goal AB 650 - leveling the playing field between taxis and other for hire services. We also agree that focusing on jurisdictional issues is important but we are very concerned that the stated goal will not be achieved with the legislation in its current form. We would like to raise fundamental concerns with the potential policy

implications of the bill, which we see as having a serious negative impact on local transportation services. If the bill does move forward, we would like to request specific technical changes to avoid what we perceive as potential unintended consequences.

#### **Fundamental Concerns:**

**Leveling the Playing Field**: A level playing field means that similar services should have similar rules. Given that taxis, TCPs (limos) and TNCs would be regulated by the same entity (with the exception of SF) and provide very similar services, the safety and security requirements should be consistent. For example, fingerprint background checks would be required of taxi drivers under AB 650, but it's not required of TNC and TCP drivers. The drug and alcohol testing provisions in AB 650 are confusing. It appears that taxi drivers would be required to be drug and alcohol tested, but not TNC drivers. Presently, taxi drivers and TCP drivers are subject to drug and alcohol testing. Also, if there's a level playing field, the concept of regions for taxis but not for TNCs and TCPs is not consistent with this goal. CPUC typically does not regulate similar types of transportation services by region, so this operational environment may pose challenges for the CPUC.

**CPUC's Capacity for Taxi Regulation is Questionable**: Based on comments made by CPUC President Picker, it is uncertain whether the CPUC has the bandwidth to regulate TNCs, let alone another, large and complex industry. President Picker has indicated that the CPUC doesn't have the resources to oversee TNCs, so it seems unlikely that shifting taxis to an already challenged agency will level the playing field.

(<u>http://ww2.kqed.org/news/2016/03/17/cpuc-regulators-still-hashing-out-more-rules-for-uber-and-lyft</u>). The resource constraints at the CPUC pose serious consumer protection concerns, particularly in light of the already minimal enforcement capacity.

**Disability Access:** The bill is silent on disability access. The bill should address the needs of people with disabilities to access on demand transportation services by including a requirement related to disability access, with follow up enforcement and/or a requirement to pay a per trip surcharge on all trips provided in non-wheelchair accessible vehicles, to be deposited into an accessible transportation fund.

**Environmental and Congestion Concerns:** There are currently no limits on the number of TNC and TCP vehicles and AB 650 will remove any limits on the number of taxis. Allowing unlimited numbers of vehicles to act commercially, with no clean air requirements is a concern, particularly in light of environmental and Vision Zero goals as well as local congestion management strategies.

**Data Sharing Requirements:** AB 650 should include a data sharing requirement for TNC, TCP and taxi services. This would help immeasurably in understanding the nature and impacts of these services and help policymakers to make smart and informed planning decisions.

**Trade Dress**: The change in trade dress regionally could be a major challenge. For example, in areas with many small jurisdictions such as Los Angeles, there could be multiple companies with some form of the same name (e.g. Yellow Taxi), and which company is allowed to maintain its name and which are required to change could very contentious and the outcome could be confusing to the public.

**Schedule**: Given the complexity and scope of changes that the bill would require, the timeline does not appear to be realistic. We recommend delaying the implementation of this regulatory transfer to at least 2018.

**State Regulation with Local Control**: There are some overarching requirements that make sense to regulate by the state and should be the same for taxis, TNCs and TCPs including:

insurance, disability access, training, vehicle inspections, and background checks. However, we would like to stress that the impact of these services is local; therefore, we recommend local control over certain aspects such as the number of allowable vehicles so that we can continue to manage traffic congestion. Enforcement authority should be granted to local jurisdictions to ensure consumer safety, which is our top priority. Local enforcement of state requirements would also be a model that SFMTA would support further exploring.

# Technical Concerns:

AB 650 may create several (unintended) barriers to San Francisco's regulation of taxicabs, even with the exemption, as well as to the ability of local jurisdictions to regulate other motor vehicles for hire.

The bill would repeal Gov't Code Section 53075.5, which gives local entities the authority to regulate taxicabs. It adds a new chapter 8.5 to Division 2 of the Public Utilities Code that would give the

CPUC the authority to regulate taxicabs (Proposed PU Code Section 5451.2), but it exempts S.F. from the provisions of the new chapter (Proposed PU Code Section 5451.3). It's clear that the bill intends the exemption for San Francisco to suffice to allow SF to continue to regulate taxicabs, but the proposed amendments may arguably leave San Francisco's authority in question as described below.

The bill also amends Vehicle Code Section 21100 to eliminate language granting local entities the authority to issue regulations or ordinances "licensing and regulating the operation of vehicles for hire and drivers of passenger vehicles for hire." (P. 38 of the draft bill shows the Vehicle Code Section absent this language. See p. 46 of the previous version that contains the relevant language in "strike-out."). Vehicle Code preemption is quite broad. Section 21 of the Vehicle Code provides:

(a) Except as otherwise expressly provided, the provisions of this code are applicable and uniform throughout the state and in all counties and municipalities therein, and a local authority shall not enact or enforce any ordinance or resolution on the matters covered by this code, including ordinances or resolutions that establish regulations or procedures for, or assess a fine, penalty, assessment, or fee for a violation of, matters covered by this code, unless expressly authorized by this code.

Therefore, since the bill arguably eliminates the express authorization for local entities to regulate motor vehicles for hire, there may be an argument that local entities would be precluded (by the Vehicle Code not the Public Utilities Code) from regulating all such vehicles, including taxicabs and other vehicles for hire that are not subject to regulation by the CPUC such as shuttles like Chariot, jitneys, local tour bus operations, and others.

If this bill is adopted, these for-hire transportation companies and vehicles could escape both state and local regulation because they are not subject to CPUC regulation and local entities would be preempted from regulating them by the Vehicle Code.

We propose that this problem be solved and serve the bill's apparent intent by reinserting the original language into Section 21100.

2. Vehicle Code Section 16500 requires owners of for-hire vehicles that are not regulated by the CPUC to carry insurance with limits of at least \$15,000 and \$30,000. The draft bill would amend that section to require taxicab carriers regulated by SF to comply with the insurance requirements of Section 5455 of the PU Code. We have never read Section 16500 to preempt the City's ability to impose higher insurance requirements on taxicabs. But on its face, the

language of the amendment to this Section seems to prescribe the insurance requirement for SF taxis and to therefore preempt the City from imposing higher requirements.

Assuming that this is not the bill's intent, I would suggest that Assembly Member Low refrain from repealing Gov't Code Section 53075.5 and add language to that section stating that "the City and County of San Francisco shall require taxicabs to provide protection against liability imposed by law for the payment of damages for personal bodily injuries, including death, and property damage, in amounts that, at a minimum, are equal to those specified in Section 5455 of the Public Utilities Code." Or, you could revise the proposed amendment to Section 16500 to include this language rather than the language currently in the bill.

3. The legislation's definition of taxicab transportation carrier is circular. Essentially, if you provide for-hire transportation through small vehicles you are a taxicab transportation carrier unless you are a charter-party carrier, and you are a charter-party carrier if you provide taxicab transportation services. (See Section 5451.4(g) and Section 5353(g)) The bill could, instead, define the term "taxicab transportation services" as "provision of transportation services for compensation, with prearrangement and without prearrangement, using motor vehicles designed for carrying not more than eight passengers, excluding the driver."

Thank you for your consideration and we're happy to answer any questions that you may have regarding our concerns.

Kate Toran Director, Taxis and Accessible Services Division 1 South Van Ness, 7th Floor San Francisco, CA 94103

415.701.5235

### Carroll, John (BOS)

From:Somera, Alisa (BOS)Sent:Monday, June 20, 2016 11:07 AMTo:BOS Legislation, (BOS)Subject:FW: Please Oppose AB 650 - Taxicab Transportation Services ActAttachments:TNC's-ChabnerCommentsCPUC11-4-2014.pdf; TNCsCPUCChabnerFollowUp3-25-2016.pdf

Categories: 160696

For File No. 160696

Alisa Somera

Legislative Deputy Director San Francisco Board of Supervisors 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102 415.554.7711 direct | 415.554.5163 fax alisa.somera@sfgov.org

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From: Howard Chabner [mailto:hlchabner@comcast.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2016 10:41 PM
To: Chung Hagen, Sheila (BOS) <sheila.chung.hagen@sfgov.org>; Somera, Alisa (BOS) <alisa.somera@sfgov.org>; Wiener, Scott <scott.wiener@sfgov.org>

Subject: FW: Please Oppose AB 650 - Taxicab Transportation Services Act

From: Howard Chabner [mailto:hlchabner@comcast.net]

Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2016 10:36 PM

**To:** 'london breed'; 'eric I mar'; 'scott weiner'; 'malia cohen'; 'john avalos'; 'david campos'; 'mark farrell'; 'jane kim'; 'katy tang'; 'norman yee'; 'angela calvillo'; 'conor johnston'; 'Vallie Brown'; 'board of supervisors'; 'aaron.peskin@sfgov.org'; 'april.veneracion@sfgov.org'; 'iris wong'; 'margaux kelly'; 'jess montejano'; 'Adam Taylor' **Cc:** 'Howard Chabner '

Subject: Please Oppose AB 650 - Taxicab Transportation Services Act

Dear President Breed and Supervisors:

Please vote in favor of Supervisor Peskin's resolution opposing state legislation AB 650, the Taxicab Transportation Services Act. AB 650 purports to level the playing field between ne taxi industry and the Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), but it does this by moving the taxi industry closer to the minimal level of regulation that exists for TNCs. (As has been pointed out, however, it would still not treat taxis and TNCs equally. For example, fingerprint background checks would be required of taxi drivers under AB 650, but not required of TNC drivers. The drug and alcohol testing provisions in AB 650 are confusing. It appears that taxi drivers would be required to be drug and alcohol tested, but not TNC drivers. There may also be differences in insurance requirements, in practical effect if not in theory.)

I watched the video of the June 13, 2016 hearing at the California State Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee. Several of the Senators who spoke in favor of the bill admitted that there is no effective regulation of TNCs in California, stated that the Senate and Assembly are unlikely to enact effective regulations nor is the CPUC, and argued that the only alternative is to greatly reduce taxi regulations. In my view, 650 is an admission of defeat and an acknowledgment of our elected representatives' unwillingness to stop the Wild West environment created by the TNCs.

I substantially agree with: the written submission dated June 8, 2016 by the California Regional Council of the Taxi Workers Alliance that was submitted to the aforementioned Committee; the in-person testimony of Mark Gruberg, Barry Korengold, Tom Diesso, Mary McGuire, Ann McVeigh, and Marcelo Fonseca at that committee on June 13; the written submission of Carl Macmurdo; and the concerns expressed by the San Francisco MTA and SFO airport. The CPUC lacks the expertise, personnel and other resources, and the will to fulfill its current obligations garding TNCs, and would not be able to effectively regulate taxis either. The proposed bill fails to ueal adequately with insurance requirements, background checks, safety, vehicle inspection, drug and alcohol testing, environmental and congestion impacts, pricing/fares, and preemption (deliberate and/or inadvertent) of local regulation not only over taxis but over TNCs, jitneys, tour buses and other transportation modes.

Instead of the race to the bottom embodied by AB 650, the Senate and Assembly should have the courage to level the playing field between the taxi industry and the TNC industry by raising standards on the TNCs. That doesn't mean that every existing taxi regulation should be applicable to the TNC industry – some existing regulations may be outdated. It means that our elected state representatives should come up with a reasonable set of regulations that protect consumers, the environment, drivers, third parties, localities and all stakeholders, and should make them applicable to everyone who provides on-demand point-to-point transportation (e.g. the taxi industry and the TNC industry). Enforcement, penalties, and jurisdiction should also be the same for taxis and TNCs. Doing this would require that our elected officials have the courage to take on the TNC industry.

Besides the above concerns, AB 650 should be rejected because it utterly fails to require that taxis or TNCs provide transportation to people with mobility disabilities. I've used an electric wheelchair since 1990 and have extensive personal experience with the transportation barriers faced by wheelchair users. Attached are written comments I made to the CPUC for its hearing on November 4, 2014 about the TNC industry. Unfortunately the situation described in those omments remains in existence today; if anything, it's only gotten worse – because of unfair \_ompetition from the TNCs, the taxi industry has been unable to maintain an adequate level of wheelchair accessible rampvan service, and the TNCs provide none and acknowledge no responsibility to provide any. Also attached is a memo I wrote on March 25, 2016 about the fact that

the TNCs provide no wheelchair accessible transportation. The memo was a follow-up to a March 22, 2016 conference call I participated in with CPUC Commissioner Liane Randolph, CPUC staff and various disability rights advocates.

The major points of the memo are:

Paratransit is neither a paradigm for wheelchair accessible TNC service nor a substitute for it.

Providing transportation in an inaccessible vehicle does not constitute wheelchair accessible service.

# An adequate, nondiscriminatory level of wheelchair accessible service will require that the TNCs own and operate wheelchair accessible vehicles.

The TNC business model in which drivers own or lease the vehicles and bear all of the financial risk (called "peer-to-peer" by the TNCs) has not resulted, and will not result, in wheelchair accessible service. Rather, it has resulted in discrimination against people who use wheelchairs. If the business model results in discrimination, it must be changed. The TNCs should be required to own and operate wheelchair accessible vehicles sufficient to provide transportation equivalent to that enjoyed by their able-bodied customers.

Some have suggested that the TNCs be required to collect a surcharge on every ride and use the money to subsidize wheelchair accessible taxis or some other accessible transportation system operated by a third party. This is unlikely to work in the long run. The TNCs maintain that they have no obligation to provide wheelchair accessible transportation. In effect, they maintain that they have the right to discriminate against wheelchair users. (Their position is similar to that of private clubs that rented hotel rooms to nonmembers and claimed that the civil rights laws didn't apply to them because they are private clubs. The clubs were wrong, and so are the TNCs.) Letting them outsource their obligation to provide accessible transportation would be an acceptance of this position. It would also set a bad precedent for the "sharing economy" in general. Letting the TNCs offload their civil rights obligations would be likely to foster a separate, unequal and inferior system of transportation for wheelchair users. If the TNCs' obligations were limited to collecting and remitting money to a thirdparty, they would have no involvement, and no incentive ever to become involved, in running the system - call it taxis or something else - of wheelchair accessible on-demand transportation. The segment of the on-demand transportation industry that is the largest, fastest growing, best financed, most sophisticated in advertising, marketing and lobbying, and most technologically savvy would not be involved in the system that provides wheelchair accessible transportation. That is a recipe for an underfunded, poorly functioning, second-class system.

The fact that AB 650 imposes no obligations on the TNC industry or the taxi industry to provide wheelchair accessible transportation is reason enough to reject this bill. And as detailed in the testimony referred to above, there are plenty of other reasons.

Therefore, please vote in favor of Supervisor Peskin's resolution opposing AB 650.

Thank you for considering this email.

Sincerely

Howard Chabner

#### Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

These comments are submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission en banc meeting of November 4, 2014 about Transportation Network Companies (TNCs). I've lived in San Francisco since 1982 and have used an electric wheelchair since 1990. I urge you not to allow the TNCs to continue to discriminate against wheelchair users, and, instead, to require them to directly provide wheelchair accessible service.

Uber and Lyft have admitted that they have no wheelchair accessible vehicles in their networks (at least in San Francisco) and have no plans to obtain or provide any. I attended the July 18, 2014, meeting of the San Francisco Mayor's Disability Council (MDC), at which a representative of Uber admitted this, and the September 19, 2014, MDC meeting, at which a representative of Lyft made the same admission. The Lyft representative described her company's efforts to recruit drivers of wheelchair accessible vehicles. These efforts revealed a naïveté and lack of knowledge about wheelchair access and about the lives and logistical difficulties of people who use wheelchairs. Both companies' representatives maintained the fiction that they merely provide information technology to facilitate a "peer" matching service but don't provide transportation. This despite the fact that the TNCs process payments, many drivers drive for them full-time, and some of the TNCs recruit drivers by offering a guaranteed minimum income for an initial period and offering to finance the purchase of vehicles.

Before the advent and dominance of the TNCs, the system of wheelchair accessible taxis in San Francisco wasn't ideal, but it functioned. In the past couple of years, however, I have essentially stopped trying to get accessible taxis except to and from the airport. For many years, even for rides to the airport, I've called a superb rampvan driver with whom I'm friends. If he was unavailable, I had a list of other rampvan drivers, and called them. (I'd found it more reliable and convenient to call rampvan drivers directly than to call the taxi companies.) But in the past couple of years, if my friend is unavailable, he has been unable to refer me to anyone else. Most of the drivers on his and my lists no longer drive taxis, and those few who do, no longer drive rampvans.

My most recent trip to SFO was in May of this year. My friend the rampvan driver was out of town, and he was literally unable to find anyone else to provide an accessible taxi ride to the airport. Fortunately I got a ride from a family member who was able to rearrange her schedule. Upon landing at SFO in early June, I was able to find a rampvan easily for a ride home.

SFO signed agreements in October 2014 with Uber, Sidecar and Lyft, allowing them to operate at the airport. This may well be the death knell for accessible taxis at SFO. Did SFO, as a condition of permitting them to operate at the airport, require the TNCs to provide wheelchair accessible transportation? If it didn't, it not only undermined the system of accessible taxis, missed an opportunity to create a more accessible transportation system, and squandered the negotiating leverage it had, but it sent the TNCs - and the disability community - a clear message that it's okay for the TNCs to discriminate against consumers in wheelchairs.

At one of the MDC meetings mentioned above, a representative of Luxor Cab mentioned that a few years ago Luxor had 40 rampvans in its fleet, now (at the date of the meeting) only 20 in the fleet, and only 10 are in service at any time. According to an article in the San Francisco Chronicle, the number of pickups in rampvans dropped from 1,378 in March 2013 to just 768 in July 2014. (The article doesn't say whether all of those passengers were wheelchair users or the number includes able-bodied passengers.) ("Ride Services Decimate SF Taxi Industry's Business," San Francisco Chronicle, September 16, 2014.) SFMTA is providing financial incentives for taxi drivers to drive rampvans and pick up passengers in wheelchairs, but they are not working. In November 2012 a friend who uses a scooter was visiting. He was staying at the Marriott downtown and was going to meet me at the Asian Art Museum. In the middle of the day on a clear, sunny weekday, not during rush hour, he had to wait literally one hour to get a rampvan from his hotel, even though the hotel called several taxi companies multiple times.

There is a downward spiral. As fewer ramp taxis are in service, wait times increase and reliability decreases, consumers in wheelchairs like me give up trying to use them, which makes business worse and increases the per-trip and per-mile costs of operating accessible taxis. More drivers stop driving ramp taxis.

Buses and paratransit are not the equivalent of taxis. For decades only taxis, and now also TNCs, provide on-demand, door-to-door, non-shared transportation. As TNCs come to supplant the taxi system, they, too, should be required to provide equivalent transportation to people who use wheelchairs, as the taxi industry has been required to do in San Francisco for decades.

Some have suggested that the TNCs be required to collect a surcharge on every ride, with the money being used to subsidize wheelchair accessible taxis. Seattle is reported to be considering this. This is wrong and unlikely to work in the long run. The TNCs maintain that they have no obligation - moral, legal or otherwise - to provide wheelchair accessible transportation. In effect, they maintain that they have the right to discriminate against wheelchair users. (Their position is similar to that of private clubs that rented hotel rooms to nonmembers and claimed that the civil rights laws didn't apply to them because they are private clubs. The clubs were wrong, and so are the TNCs.) Letting them off with a surcharge would be an acceptance of this position. It would also set a bad precedent for the so-called "sharing economy" in general.

Letting the TNCs merely collect a surcharge would foster a separate, unequal and inferior system of on-demand transportation for wheelchair users. The financial incentives San Francisco MTA is currently providing for rampvan taxis aren't working. What reason is there to believe that funding additional incentives by means of a small surcharge on TNC rides would work? And if the TNCs' obligations were limited to collecting and remitting a surcharge, they would have no involvement, and no incentive ever to become involved, in running the system - call it taxis or something else - of wheelchair accessible on-demand transportation. The segment of the on-demand transportation industry that is the largest, fastest growing, best financed, most sophisticated in advertising, marketing and lobbying, and most technologically savvy would not be involved in the system that provides wheelchair accessible transportation. That is a recipe for an underfunded, poorly functioning, second-class system.

Even if it did work for a while, how long would such a system survive? Nobody can predict what will happen to the taxi industry in a few years, and whether it will even continue to exist. If the TNCs' business strategy succeeds, there will be no taxis. But having initially allowed the TNCs to avoid providing wheelchair accessible transportation, state and local regulators will hardly be in a position to change course and try to impose such a requirement some years later. It will be too late.

The only fair and viable solution is to have strong state and local regulation requiring the TNCs to provide wheelchair accessible transportation at the same level of service as the regular transportation they provide. This would mean declaring that the Emperor has no clothes - that the TNCs are actually in the business of providing transportation. But regulators are already doing this in imposing insurance requirements, driver background checks and other consumer protections. The TNCs are accepting some regulations while still publicly maintaining the fiction that they don't provide transportation. Except in the aggressive, sophisticated and high-priced public relations campaigns of the TNCs, this fiction is receding in the face of reality. Just as San Francisco has required the taxi industry to provide wheelchair accessible transportation, among other regulatory requirements, the CPUC and SFMTA should do so with respect to TNCs.

It is relevant to note that, as they have done with TNCs, San Francisco government has taken a hands-off approach to accessibility of limousine/private car services and sightseeing buses, declining to assert regulatory jurisdiction or even to use San Francisco's considerable financial, logistical and practical leverage to require access.

This summer I tried to arrange, with a limousine/private car service, an accessible short ride within San Francisco that would have been less than \$10 in a taxi or TNC, for an acquaintance from out of town, a Grammy award-winning pianist who uses a wheelchair. I called Bauer and Gateway, the two largest providers in San Francisco. The smallest accessible vehicle Bauer could provide was a 24-seater, at a cost of \$616 for four hours (there is a four-hour minimum). Gateway could only provide a "minibus" at \$131 per hour with a three-hour minimum. Neither the Bauer nor the Gateway employees were knowledgeable about access; they noted my request and said they would call me a day or two later. Neither called, so I had to chase them. Besides the outrageous prices, it was obvious that neither company was interested in providing accessible transportation. Ultimately I didn't book with either one.

A significant percentage of the hop-on hop-off and other sightseeing buses operating in San Francisco are not wheelchair accessible. I see inaccessible ones often, including when I roll past a large dedicated parking space on Fell near Pierce streets that San Francisco government has provided the tour bus operators. Some bus drivers have confirmed to me that their vehicles aren't accessible.

When I inquired about these discriminatory situations, San Francisco City employees told me they believe that the CPUC, and not the City and County of San Francisco, has jurisdiction over limousine/private car services and sightseeing buses. Please do not bestow the blessing of the California Public Utilities Commission on yet another transportation system that is inaccessible to consumers who use wheelchairs, especially one that is rapidly becoming dominant and ubiquitous, and that may make taxis obsolete. Require the TNCs to directly provide wheelchair accessible transportation at a level equivalent to that enjoyed by their other customers.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely

Howard L. Chabner

#### TNCs AND WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

By Howard Chabner March 25, 2016

This memo is a follow-up to the meeting/conference call on Tuesday, March 22, 2016, with CPUC Commissioner Liane Randolph, CPUC staff and various disability rights advocates. The discussion was about providing access to TNC transportation services for customers with various types of disabilities. This memo focuses on wheelchair access. I've used a power wheelchair since 1990. My wife and I have owned three lowered floor wheelchair accessible minivans since 1990, including our current one.

Paratransit is neither a paradigm for wheelchair accessible TNC service nor a substitute for it.

Paratransit is a program run by local public transportation agencies for people with disabilities who are unable to use public transportation independently (or where public transportation is not accessible); for them it is a substitute for public transportation. Paratransit fares are heavily subsidized by the local government, which makes sense because public transportation has (relatively) low fares.

In great contrast to TNC transportation, paratransit is not true on-demand transportation. It requires a reservation, usually at least the day before the ride. Pick up and drop off are provided within a time window that varies depending upon the agency that runs the program. The ride is often shared with other customers going to different destinations. Depending on the localities, there can be barriers and problems in getting a ride that crosses jurisdictions. In order to be eligible for paratransit, a person must fill out an application and demonstrate that they are unable to use public transportation independently (or that public transportation isn't accessible). If their application is approved, their eligibility is for a specified time period. Visitors can be served, but they also must demonstrate eligibility and sign up in advance.

In short, not only is paratransit service different from TNC transportation, but in many ways it is the complete opposite. Therefore, referring a customer who uses a wheelchair to paratransit does not fulfill a TNC's obligation to provide accessible services. Moreover, doing so would put a strain on the paratransit system, and would be using public funds to, in effect, subsidize the TNC.

Providing transportation in an inaccessible vehicle does not constitute wheelchair accessible service.

This should be self-evident, and has been among the disability community, taxi industry, regulators and many others for decades, but sometimes TNCs have mischaracterized transportation in an inaccessible vehicle as constituting wheelchair accessible service. Depending on the particular vehicle, some people who use manual wheelchairs are able to transfer to an ordinary, non-accessible vehicle and stow their wheelchair in the trunk or back

seat. TNCs must serve these wheelchair users with the same level of service as able-bodied customers, and provide accommodations such as assistance stowing the wheelchair, but this doesn't constitute wheelchair accessible service.<sup>1</sup> To say that it does would be like saying that a public accommodation located on the second floor of a building without an elevator is accessible because people with mobility limitations who are able to climb stairs can get there.

Only transportation in a wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) should be considered wheelchair accessible transportation. The CPUC should define what an accessible vehicle is. As stated by Peter Mendoza, it should be a vehicle that can accommodate a power wheelchair, with a ramp or lift, a conversion by a recognized mobility vehicle conversion company, at least four tiedowns and a lap/shoulder belt long enough to accommodate a power wheelchair. The rampvans used in the San Francisco taxi fleet are an example. 49 CFR Section 38.23 provides specifications for ramps, lifts and securement devices. Also, minimum doorway and interior height, doorway width and interior open space should be specified in any regulations the CPUC adopts.

The CPUC should require TNCs to provide data about requests for accessible transportation, but those requests understate the demand. The TNCs should be required to continue providing this information. However, the number of requests almost certainly understates the demand because many potential customers who use wheelchairs have stopped requesting WAV service because the TNCs have not provided it. This is a classic example of dissuasion, a barrier all too common in disability access. For example, I use a power wheelchair but have not requested accessible service because I know from other wheelchair users, from media coverage and from the TNCs themselves that accessible service is virtually nonexistent. The TNCs may argue that demand for WAV service is low, based on a relatively low number of requests; it's important to keep in mind that the number of requests doesn't reflect the true level of demand.

## An adequate, nondiscriminatory level of wheelchair accessible service will require that the TNCs own WAVs.

The goal, the imperative, is to provide customers in wheelchairs with transportation in WAVs equivalent to that provided to able-bodied customers - in response time, geographical availability, fares and other characteristics. In order to provide adequate response time and geographical availability, there needs to be a substantial number of WAVs. On the conference call it was mentioned that Houston specifies a required response time, rather than an absolute number of WAVs or a percentage of the fleet.

Certainly the ultimate goal is response time; having WAVs is a means to that end. But given the TNCs' lack of transparency and outright disobedience to the CPUC's order for information, and also due to the complexity of the data and the difficulty of customers proving waiting time (the TNCs will have and control all of the data), the CPUC should require both a maximum response time and, for each geographical area, a minimum number of WAVs or a percentage based on the average number of vehicles being driven for the particular TNC in that

2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All TNC drivers should be trained in providing assistance to customers with all types of disabilities, including customers who use wheelchairs.

area over a specified time period. Disability Rights Advocates, on behalf of various organizations and individuals, achieved a settlement with New York City requiring that WAVs comprise 50% of the NYC taxi fleet by a date certain. Both sides recognized that, in order to provide equivalent, responsive accessible service, a significant percentage of a fleet must be wheelchair accessible.

There are three categories of potential WAV drivers: wheelchair users; able-bodied spouses, partners, friends or family members of people who use wheelchairs; and people who don't fall into either of those categories. Under the TNCs' current business model in which the drivers, not the TNCs, own the vehicles, it is highly unlikely that there will be enough owner/drivers of WAVs to provide adequate response time and geographical availability. This is likely to be true even if large incentives were provided to drive WAVs, and even if the TNCs' sophisticated software were used to optimize response times.

Many wheelchair users don't drive. Most wheelchair users who do drive and own a WAV are unlikely to be able to drive their own vehicle for a TNC for customers in wheelchairs. It's difficult or impossible to fit two wheelchairs, especially power wheelchairs, in most accessible minivans, which are now more popular than accessible full-sized vans. Even if two wheelchairs could fit in a particular vehicle, it would be difficult if not impossible for the driver who uses a wheelchair to operate the tiedowns and shoulder harness in order to secure the customer's wheelchair. And even for someone with enough strength and manual dexterity, there wouldn't be enough space in most WAVs to maneuver. Also, safety would require eight tiedowns and two adapted shoulder belts - that's a lot of devices and straps in a small space. In San Francisco, I'm unaware of any taxi driver who uses a wheelchair, although I know one who uses a scooter but can walk short distances.

The second category of potential drivers of WAVs includes able-bodied spouses, partners or close friends/family members of someone who uses a wheelchair and owns an accessible vehicle. But often that person has their hands full living their own life and helping their loved one. Not many would be likely to have the time or want to drive for a TNC. Per Peter Mendoza, his wife Jennifer is the only driver of a WAV for a TNC in San Francisco.

The third category is drivers who choose to drive a WAV for altruistic reasons or financial incentives or both. Under the TNC business model of owner/drivers, the number of individuals in this category is likely to be extremely small. Most people who don't have a spouse, partner, close friend or family member who uses a wheelchair are unlikely to purchase a WAV.

The purchase price, maintenance cost, operating cost and wear and tear of WAVs are significantly higher than for a comparable ordinary vehicle.<sup>2</sup> This is true whether the vehicle is

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  The conversion cost of a new WAV minivan can be as much as 80% of the cost of the basic vehicle, or 45% of the total cost. For commercial WAV minivans, which often have fewer features and amenities than those owned by individuals for personal use, the percentages may be lower but are still significant. (For example, individuals often purchase WAVs for their own use with a kneeling feature and a sunroof, which commercial WAVs typically don't have. The cost of these extra features is yet another hurdle to the economic feasibility of driving one's personal WAV for a TNC.) If the TNC model is based solely on owner/drivers operating their own vehicles, of which each

used to transport mostly wheelchair users or mostly able-bodied passengers (although the wear and tear is greater when transporting people who use wheelchairs). Gas mileage is mediocre at best. All of this makes the economics difficult, whether the owner/driver is closely connected with a wheelchair user or is someone who's committed to serving customers in wheelchairs even though he or she doesn't have a particular connection with one. This also makes it unlikely that the spouse, partner or close friend/family member would choose to drive for a TNC without a huge subsidy, both because of the extra cost and wear and tear associated with their WAV, and because the wheelchair user in their life is very dependent on the WAV and might well be reluctant to increase the frequency and cost of maintenance required and to incur the increased likelihood and time of the vehicle being out of service.<sup>3</sup>

The TNC business model in which drivers own the vehicles and bear all of the financial risk (called "peer-to-peer" by the TNCs) has not resulted, and will not result, in wheelchair accessible service. Rather, it has resulted in discrimination against people who use wheelchairs. If the business model results in discrimination, it must be changed. The TNCs should be required to own and operate WAVs sufficient to provide transportation equivalent to that enjoyed by their able-bodied customers.

Reports have suggested that Uber alone is valued at over \$50 billion based on its most recent financing, making it one of the world's most valuable private companies. It's also been widely reported that Uber is investing in driverless vehicles. It is not asking too much for the CPUC to require TNCs to own and operate WAVs. The cost could be built into the price of every ride, whether explicitly designated a surcharge or just built into the pricing structure.

Some have suggested that the TNCs be required to collect a surcharge on every ride and use the money to subsidize wheelchair accessible taxis or some other accessible transportation system operated by a third party. This is unlikely to work in the long run. The TNCs maintain that they have no obligation to provide wheelchair accessible transportation. In effect, they maintain that they have the right to discriminate against wheelchair users. (Their position is similar to that of private clubs that rented hotel rooms to nonmembers and claimed that the civil rights laws didn't apply to them because they are private clubs. The clubs were wrong, and so are the TNCs.) Letting them outsource their obligation to provide accessible transportation would be an acceptance of this position. It would also set a bad precedent for the "sharing economy" in general.

purchases only one, the per-vehicle acquisition cost is probably higher than for a fleet of similar commercial accessible vehicles, such as a fleet of rampvan taxis.

<sup>3</sup> WAVs have two sets of systems that must be maintained and repaired - the regular systems, like any automobile, which are serviced by regular auto mechanics, and the adapted components (ramp or lift, special suspension, kneeling mechanism and related controls), which are maintained and repaired by specialized WAV dealers, not regular auto mechanics. There are a limited number of specialized dealers (there are none in San Francisco that I'm aware of), they typically are not open on Saturdays, and they don't stock as many parts, or have them available as quickly, as regular auto mechanics do. Loaner vehicles are rarely available when one's WAV - either the adapted components or the regular systems - is being serviced. So it's significantly more difficult, time-consuming, inconvenient and expensive to maintain and repair a WAV than a regular automobile.

Letting the TNCs offload their civil rights obligations would be likely to foster a separate, unequal and inferior system of transportation for wheelchair users. If the TNCs' obligations were limited to collecting and remitting money to a third-party, they would have no involvement, and no incentive ever to become involved, in running the system - call it taxis or something else - of wheelchair accessible on-demand transportation. The segment of the on-demand transportation industry that is the largest, fastest growing, best financed, most sophisticated in advertising, marketing and lobbying, and most technologically savvy would not be involved in the system that provides wheelchair accessible transportation. That is a recipe for an underfunded, poorly functioning, second-class system.<sup>4</sup>

Even if it did work for a while, how long would such a system survive? Nobody can predict what will happen to the taxi industry in a few years, and whether it will even continue to exist. If the TNCs' business strategy succeeds, there will be no taxis. But having initially allowed the TNCs to avoid directly providing wheelchair accessible transportation, regulators will hardly be in a position to change course and try to impose such a requirement some years later. It will be too late. And what industry would remain with the equipment and expertise to provide accessible on-demand transportation?

The CPUC should permit the different TNC companies to work together to create a combined WAV fleet, with perhaps a common ordering mechanism so that a customer has the option of requesting a WAV from a particular TNC or from whichever company's WAV could arrive the soonest.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The system of assistance personnel at airports is relevant. Many years ago airline employees directly provided assistance to disabled people at airports, but over the years at US airports the airlines have contracted this to thirdparty providers in order to save money. I know from years of personal experience that the quality of the assistance was better when it was provided directly by the airlines. Businesses tend to serve their customers better when they do it directly rather than through third parties.

| Print Form  |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Introduction Form<br>By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor   |                               |
| I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):  | Time stamp<br>or meeting date |
| 1. For reference to Committee. (An Ordinance, Resolution, Motion, or Charter Amend  | lment)                        |
| 2. Request for next printed agenda Without Reference to Committee.  |                               |
| 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.  |                               |
| 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor   | inquires"                     |
| 5. City Attorney request.   |                               |
| 6. Call File No. from Committee.  |                               |
| 7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).  |                               |
| 8. Substitute Legislation File No.  |                               |
| 9. Reactivate File No.  |                               |
| 10. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on  |                               |
| Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the foll  | lowing:<br>mmission           |
| Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission  | ission                        |
| Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative Form.  |                               |
| Sponsor(s):   |                               |
| Aaron Peskin  |                               |
| Subject:  |                               |
| Urging California State Legislators to Amend or Oppose California State Assembly Bill 650 (<br>Negative Impact on Local Transportation Services and Consumer Safety Protection. | (Low) in Recognition of       |
| The text is listed below or attached:   |                               |
| See attached  |                               |
| Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:   |                               |
| For Clerk's Use Only:   |                               |