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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ROSA L. DELAURO

3RD DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

March 9, 2015

CO-CHAIR, DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND
POLICY COMMITTEE

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EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES
AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION,
AND RELATED AGENCIES

Mr. Travis Kalanick
Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Uber Technologies, Incorporated.
1455 Market Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, California 94103

Logan Green
Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Lyft, Incorporated
548 Market St #68514
San Francisco, California 94104

Sunil Paul
Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Sidecar Technologies, Incorporated
360 Pine Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, California 94105

Dear Mr. Kalanick, Mr. Green, and Mr. Paul:

As Members of Congress whose constituents may employ the services of Uber, Lyft, or Sidecar, we write to you to express our concern regarding sexual assaults and potential gaps in the screening process for your drivers. While we understand your companies conduct private background checks when vetting potential drivers, you should take additional steps to increase the safety of your customers. Specifically, we urge you to adopt comprehensive fingerprint-based background checks for new and existing drivers.

With rapidly expanding operations in the United States, your companies have become part of the daily lives of many Americans. Following multiple instances of sexual assault by drivers hired to work in your industry, it is clear that there is an urgent need to improve screening standards currently in place. In Boston, there were numerous reports of passengers being sexually assaulted, including one instance where a driver allegedly kidnapped and strangled a customer. Drivers have been accused of violent attacks or groping passengers in several other cases in the past year including in San Francisco, Los Angeles, the District of Columbia, and Chicago. By using comprehensive fingerprint-based background checks, your companies can each do their part to reduce the likelihood of similar crimes from occurring in the future.

We appreciate that your companies currently take steps to screen drivers; however we believe that the current screening standards do not utilize all of the available tools to ensure passenger

safety. Your companies should implement fingerprint-based background checks right now. This would match screening standards for taxicab services that are already required by many of the largest state regulators across the United States.

While no screening method is perfect, we believe that the most rigorous and comprehensive screening methods available should be used. We also believe that consumers have the right to know that drivers you employ have been properly vetted before they are allowed to pick up customers.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you to improve the screening of your drivers and improve the safety of your passengers.

Sincerely,



ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress



LONISE M. SLAUGHTER
Member of Congress



NIKI TSONGAS
Members of Congress



LUCILLE ROYBALL-ALLARD
Member of Congress



KEITH ELLISON
Member of Congress



YVETTE CLARKE
Member of Congress



CORRINE BROWN
Member of Congress



JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress