

SB2149

3/11/2021

Transportation Network Company

Senator Burckhard Talking Points

Sponsor of SB2149

- The Airport Association of North Dakota (AAND) is spearheading an effort to modify the language in ND Century Code section 39-34-06 Controlling Authority of a Transportation Network Company (TNC), so commercial airport operators could enter into operational agreements with TNCs if they chose to.
- Currently, airport operators have the ability to enter in operational agreements with other ground transportation providers such as taxis, shuttles and rental cars, but not TNCs. AAND members feel this is an inequality issue and that century code should allow airport operators to enter into agreements with all ground transportation providers.
- Permitting airport operators to enter into operational agreements with TNCs allows airport operators to create a fee structure that keeps the airport as self-sustaining as possible, which is a requirement for airports that receive federal grant money for capital projects. This fee structure offsets some of the costs for maintaining the airport access roads and terminal front.
- This is NOT a new fee or tax. As stated, airport operators are able to enter into contracts with shuttle services, taxis, car rental companies and limo services for operations at a commercial airport and in those cases the fee is normally passed onto the customer.
- Also, by allowing TNCs and airports to establish contracts, airports will be able to safely and efficiently integrate TNC into their operations versus having to treat them like the public. Additionally, an airport would be able to promote TNC operations, actually increasing the need for TNC drivers at their airport.
- There are several airport operators looking to create a taxi/shuttle program, but are cautious about moving forward because of the inability to enter into an operational agreement for all similarly situated ground transportation providers.
- Combined, the major TNCs have contracts with over 300 airports nationwide. TNC operators want to be at airports and airports want TNCs. TNCs are going to continue to grow, and ND airport operators would like the ability to integrate TNCs into the airport's operation for safety and efficiency.
- City and Airport Leaders respectfully ask that you support this legislation by providing a do pass recommendation.