



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

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State Budget Paves the Way for Ridesharing Companies in Upstate

JOHN A. DEFRANCISCO April 13, 2017

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Bringing Ridesharing Services To New York:

While ridesharing apps have long been available for use in many communities across the nation, including New York City, they have been unavailable in most regions in the State of New York. This is no longer the case.

The 2017-18 State Budget includes legislation that will pave the way for Transportation Network Companies (TNC), such as Uber and Lyft, to expand to Upstate New York this summer.

The legislation will require TNC companies to maintain certain insurance levels, while a driver is traveling to pick up a passenger and until the drop-off is complete. Drivers will also have to submit to mandatory background checks and comply with zero-tolerance drug and alcohol policies.

The Department of Motor Vehicles will have broad oversight of ride-sharing companies and will ensure compliance with all laws, rules, and regulations required as part of a TNC's operational license. Finally, a statewide board will be established to review the impact of this expanding industry.

By making Uber, Lyft, and other ride-sharing apps available throughout the state, this new measure will expand options for transportation services for residents and visitors alike in our community. It will also help to create jobs and boost tourism.

People interested in driving for Uber and/or Lyft must be at least 21-years-old. Both ridesharing companies are accepting applications, and more information can be found on their own websites.