



Written testimony before the  
**Committee on Transportation**  
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Teamsters Joint Council 56

March 15<sup>th</sup> 2023

## **Oppose House BILL 2019**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee:

My name is Matt Hall, I am with Teamsters Joint Council 56 which represents more than 15,000 workers in Kansas. Our union includes professional drivers throughout the entire state of Kansas.

It is the position of Teamsters JC 56 that this bill is an erosion of labor rights in the state of Kansas and does a disservice to workers and the labor market. This bill in our analysis would change the current standard under the law which states that if a worker is not doing work outside the company's normal scope of business, then they should be considered an employee and not an independent contractor.

According to the Kansas DOL standards, the KS DOL lists that one of the considerations of whether a worker is an employee or independent contractor is "whether or not the work is part of the regular business of the principal (employer)". This bill would remove that and be a huge carveout for this entire industry.

There is no reason that this industry should get a special exception to not be held to the same rules all other employers are held to. There should be an even playing field that protects all companies and Kansans. Further we don't feel that this bill has a positive effect on any business based in Kansas. This is a grab from out of state big tech to increase their profits and syphon money from our state.

Misclassification laws are important to workers and our society as they protect workers' rights on things like overtime pay, FMLA, Health and safety protections, and Discrimination and harassment protections. Misclassification laws also protect companies as they set a standard for work in the state of Kansas and don't give certain industries an unfair advantage. Finally Misclassified workers undercut out federal and state Worker institutions such as social security and Unemployment Insurance.

We urge the committee to oppose this legislation. We thank you for your time.