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**PLEASE SUPPORT HB 2433**1 message

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Dear Representative,

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Online Messengers Association (PAOLMA) I write to request your support and vote for **HB 2433** sponsored by Representative Jim Marshall.

Online messengers are private small businesses in your community which contract with PennDOT to provide hundreds of motor vehicle services in real time including vehicle title transfers, apportion registrations for trucks and tractors, license plate issuance, driver record requests, driver licensing, vehicle registrations, duplicate titles, insurance restorations, disability placard and plates, photo ID card renewals, changes of address, restoration fee and proof of insurance for driver licenses under suspension, intransit tag issuance, motor home, recreational vehicle, ATV, boat, and modular housing titles and transfers, and more. Across Pennsylvania consumers rely on our local "title and tag" stores to quickly obtain the PennDOT products they need.

Governor Wolf's Emergency Declaration and subsequent Business Closure Order related to Covid-19, while deeming transportation and logistics functions "life sustaining", determined messengers to be "non-life sustaining" and mandated the closure of our stores indefinitely.

We encourage your vote in favor of **HB 2433** because:

- **The DCED "Waiver" Process Is Discriminatory:** Some messengers were granted waivers while others (only 3 miles apart) were denied;
- **Consumers Have Been Demanding Messenger Services Since Mid-March:** Our customers do not generally purchase new vehicles but need title transfers for used vehicles, vehicles being brought in from out-of-state, death-imposed transfers, gifted vehicles and insurance transfers. Our customers are often from economically challenged populations needing a vehicle for businesses and employment as the sole wage earner in their household and they have been contacting us repeatedly since the pandemic outbreak. A Covid-19 testing site administrator in Luzerne County needed to register a trailer for the site two weeks ago and contacted a messenger and the local state representative who were both denied a request of PennDOT to open in order to issue the tags required;

- **Messengers Can Serve Consumers Even When PennDOT Is Not Open For Business:** Despite PennDOT being closed by Governor Wolf's Declaration messengers are immediately able to serve consumers, as has always been the case, for title transfers, registration renewals, reissuance of tags and owner's cards, duplicate driver's licenses and vehicle registrations, changes in address, issuance of special funds plates like Wildlife, Heritage and Zoos (all organizations which desperately need this revenue), operator driving records, instant plates, disability plates and placards, operator and vehicle restorations, reconstructed vehicle titles, instant boat and ATV registrations and apportion registrations for trucks and tractors;
- **The Highest Consumer Demand For Messengers Do Not Involve Forms With Expiration Dates and Renewals:** While PennDOT has tolled expiration dates on many required forms and permits, it is a fallacy that messengers deal primarily with consumers on expiration issues. As has always been the case, most consumers are visiting messengers for title requests, transfers, apportion registrations for trucks and tractors and disability paperwork—all products and services that do not have expiration date or termination issues.

**HB 2433** requires DCED to immediately issue a waiver of the Governor's Business Closure Order for all messenger services, but only where the stores are compliant with social distancing practices and mitigation measures defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). This waiver will allow these small businesses to begin serving the pent-up demand for PennDOT products and services in your hometowns, and MOST IMPORTANTLY, promote the enhanced public safety on our roadways across Pennsylvania.

On behalf of the motoring public in Pennsylvania, I ask for your **"YES" vote on HB 2433**. Thank you!

In Good Health,

John T. Yurconic

Chairman

Pennsylvania Online Messengers Association