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INNOVATION ECONOMY

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January 8, 2019

Secretary Kimberly L. Robinson
Louisiana Department of Revenue
617 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Re: Louisiana Retail Food and Beverage E-Commerce Task Force

Dear Secretary Robinson:

TechNet, which represents the nation's leading innovative technology companies, thanks you for chairing the Louisiana Retail Food and Beverage E-Commerce Task Force. We truly appreciate the Task Force's efforts to study the economic impact and benefits of allowing third party platform providers to provide full-service delivery in Louisiana.

Given that the January 10 Task Force meeting will include discussions surrounding potential legislation, we write to offer our input on policy principles that would promote the growth of innovative e-commerce options while also ensuring public safety. TechNet supports a reasonable statutory and regulatory framework, including the following:

- Third party delivery:
 - Allowing retailers to contract with a third party for delivery services for orders placed through an online/mobile platform
 - Requiring that the third party be registered to conduct business in Louisiana and not hold a Louisiana alcoholic beverage permit of any class or type
 - Requiring retailers to maintain control over the selection of products and prices offered through the third party's platform
- Drivers:
 - Allowing third parties to hire employees or independent contractors to serve as drivers
 - Requiring that the drivers be at least 18 years old
 - Requiring the third party to conduct a background check on each driver
- Delivery mechanics:
 - Requiring the third party to have the ability to track delivery routes

- Requiring drivers to refuse delivery if the recipient is intoxicated or underage, or if there is reason to doubt the authenticity or correctness of the recipient's identification

Additionally, we respectfully oppose efforts to require a third party to conduct in-person interviews with each driver. Such a requirement would be overly burdensome to both drivers and third party platform companies without a commensurate public safety benefit, given that each driver would undergo a robust background check.

We look forward to continued engagement with the Task Force and Louisiana Legislature as the state considers how to give consumers access to the benefits of full-service delivery by third party platform providers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Edmonson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Edmonson
Executive Director

CC: Members of Louisiana Retail Food and Beverage E-Commerce Task Force