



## Small Business Transportation Investment Act

### **Purpose:**

COVID-19 had a devastating impact on the passenger ground transportation industry. Small businesses lost anywhere from 80-100% of their business during that time. Even though the industry had been deemed essential during the pandemic by Governors and the Department of Homeland Security, our rides were limited to those traveling on essential business such as taking at-risk patients to medical appointments, delivering critical prescriptions to those shelter in their homes, and taking hospital workers to and from their jobs at all hours of the day.

With states reopened, our industry has taken all the measures necessary to ensure our vehicles are clean and safe for both the passengers and our drivers. With more people getting back to work and people using ground transportation again, our industry is making a comeback. We have gone through a period of trying to survive the pandemic to now recovering. Our industry has lost tens of billions of dollars in revenue since March of 2020.

The pandemic forced us to take older vehicles off the road and idle them permanently. This has caused a shortage for us and that is why we would ask Congress to support our Small Business Transportation Investment Act. This partnership with the Federal government will allow us to get newer more environmentally friendly vehicles on the streets.

### **Small Business Transportation Investment Act:**

Create a new 3-year pilot program within the General Service Administration's (GSA) Fleet Vehicle Program that would **sell** used vehicles from the government's fleet to industry at cost, just as they currently do for state and local governments as well as Indian tribes. The Federal government currently sells these vehicles to the public through auction. In addition to helping small business transportation companies stay in business, providing jobs to workers and mobility to the public, this program has the added benefit of creating a more environmentally friendly fleet.

Current GSA policy gives state and local governments, as well as Indian tribes, access to these vehicles at cost.

**Solution: We are proposing a 3-year pilot program that would allow small businesses in the ground transportation industry the same opportunity or classification as state and local governments, and Indian tribes.**