



For Immediate Release
June 27, 2020
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**New York Times Editorial Board Tells Californians Vote “NO”
on Uber, Lyft, Doordash’s November Initiative**
“Let’s stop giving tech companies a free ride.”

[In a scathing editorial today, *The New York Times*](#) called the November initiative written and paid for by Uber, Lyft and Doordash exactly what it is: “a proposal is designed primarily to protect the companies from properly paying for their legion of workers,” and concluded California “voters would be wise to reject it.”

The Times went on to blast the app corporations for “funding a California ballot proposal granting gig economy companies a specific carve-out,” rather than following California law that requires them to provide sick pay, unemployment insurance and other basic employee rights. “It’s clear that Uber and other tech companies have simply defied the statute, arguing disingenuously that the law doesn’t apply to them,” the Times opined, in order to maintain “cost advantages by keeping drivers and food deliverers classified as independent contractors.”

The Times editorial comes just days after Attorney General Xavier Becerra and three California city attorneys asked a court to immediately force app companies to classify their drivers as employees in accordance with California law. The editorial quotes San Diego City Attorney Mara Elliott explaining the broader impact of the app companies’ legal defiance: “They are relying on taxpayers to bear the brunt of unemployment since they aren’t paying their fair share.”

The Times also rebuked the app companies for ignoring “safety measures during the pandemic, including providing sufficient numbers of masks or guidance on social distancing.”

With today's editorial, *The New York Times* has joined Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren in urging Californians to vote "No" on the app companies' special exemption for themselves.

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