

For Immediate Release

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U.S. REP. FRANK GUINTA'S BILL STRENGTHENS & PROTECTS TRUCKING INDUSTRY

"This bill is good news for truckers and consumers alike, and an important boost in the arm to New Hampshire's 5,000-plus trucking companies."

(WASHINGTON – June 29, 2011) The trucking industry likely played a role in your daily life today... and you probably didn't even realize it. If you shop in New Hampshire, almost everything found in shops and stores was transported there by truck. That's because 92% of New Hampshire communities depend exclusively on trucking to ship the goods they need. Trucking is important to our state's bottom line, too: roughly one out of every 16 jobs in New Hampshire is involved with trucking, and truckers pay 33% of fees and taxes that provide funding for our roads and highways.

That is why U.S. Representative Frank Guinta (R, NH-01) has introduced a bipartisan bill to protect this important industry from a serious problem. Guinta sponsored H.R. 2357, the Fighting Fraud in Trucking Act of 2011, along with Rep. Russ Carnahan of Missouri. The bill increases the amount of a surety bond that truckers are required to pay from the current \$10,000 to \$100,000. Industry leaders say this fix would go a long way in reducing the small number of people who take advantage of the low bond rate to defraud businesses.

"When fraud occurs, the cost is passed on to us, the consumers, through higher prices," Guinta explained. "Keeping the bad guys out of the trucking industry not only maintains a level playing field for legitimate truckers, but it also keeps down prices for all of who depend on the products they send to us. This bill is good news for truckers and consumers alike, and is an important tool for protecting New Hampshire's 5,000-plus trucking companies."

The bill would also require the U.S. Department of Transportation to establish procedures for screening its list of motor carriers, brokers and freight forwarders annually. It has been referred to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for consideration. Guinta serves on that committee.

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