



TIA ON THE HILL

The Latest News and Updates from TIA's Government Affairs Department



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House Transportation Bill: What's Next?

Last week, the U.S. House of Representatives passed their version of the Surface Transportation Re-authorization Bill, and now the focus shifts to how to work a deal out with the U.S. Senate. The Re-authorization is set to expire at the end of September, and there will be a whole bunch of twist and turns along the way before a potential deal is reached.

Some form of infrastructure spending has become a must pass piece of legislation for President Biden, who has made this a top priority. There are currently at least four different packages that are being considered or in the works to be considered. These include: the House Transportation Bill, the Senate EPW and Commerce Bill, the “Gang of 21” bi-partisan package and the House Democrats robust “human infrastructure” package. There are also talks about the U.S. Senate using the reconciliation process again to get the funding piece through Congress, which would not bode well for policy provisions and the green initiatives.

Chairman DeFazio has signaled his support to possibly mash up his bill and the bi-partisan “Gang of 21” framework, which has the support from President Biden and the powerful House Bi-partisan Problems Solvers Caucus who recently endorsed the framework. It is worth noting that there is no legislative text yet for that framework, but merely a framework and principles that all members of the “Gang” agree upon.

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Unlike past years, the likely scenarios are two-fold in our opinion, a last-minute deal will be struck to get something across the finish line. What that deal might look like will remain to be seen. The second option is partisan politics rears its ugly head again and the only solution is an extension to the Re-authorization for at least 6-months or a year. Ultimately kicking the can down the road and setting up another battle for infrastructure right before the November 2022 mid-terms elections.

CARB Advanced Clean Truck: More Bad News for 3PLs

The California Air Resources Board or CARB continues to work on the newest regulation in a laundry list of bad regulations for 3PLs and businesses, the Advanced Clean Trucks regulation. The regulation seeks to, “increase the market for on-road zero emissions vehicles and to reduce emissions of pollutants, toxic air containments and greenhouse gases from medium and heavy-duty on-road vehicles.” After meeting with TIA’s Environmental & Hazmat Committee members in late 2020, the CARB staff presentation took a complete 180 and makes brokers “fleet owners.” Yes, you heard that correct, if you arrange transportation for more than 50 trucks within the state of California, you will be considered a fleet owner. Please note that the small owner-operators will not be, but brokers will be.

Not only is CARB completely off the rails with this latest regulation but is obviously living on another planet. TIA continues the dialogue with CARB staff, as they are in the process of writing the rule as we speak. We will do whatever we can to try and convince them, that we are not fleet owners but brokers. Like the previous regulations, we will work to establish clear due diligence requirements that removes the burden from our members.

There does remain the question on enforcement and how will they identify the brokers that fall into these categories. *Please note: if you receive a questionnaire from CARB, it is TIA’s guidance to NOT fill it out and simply file it away.

We will keep the membership up to date on the process, as CARB looks to approve this in late 2021 or early 2022. Additionally, TIA will be hosting a [webinar for Members on July 15th](#) about this regulation. Please be on the lookout for more information on the upcoming webinar.

If you have any questions, please contact TIA Advocacy (advocacy@tianet.org, 703.299.5700).

ONLY 1 SPOT LEFT!

TIA PAC
Transportation Intermediaries Association

2021 DOVE HUNT

ADDITIONAL DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED
SPRING 2021

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14-15 SEPTEMBER
ALBANY, TEXAS

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TIA Operations Committee Meets on TIA Watchdog Improvements

TIA Operations Committee met last week to discuss a variety of topics, including TIA Watchdog and updating and improving the user interface. TIA Watchdog is a member only, internal tool in which members can report bad actors in all aspects of the supply-chain, so other members of the Association are aware. Members found the discussion riveting, many of which did not understand the full scope of the Watchdog and how it can help their business and their carrier selection process. TIA's Chief Administrative Officer, Polly Bond, spoke about the reports being tied to liability and defamation. Members must be able to stand by their reports and vouch for them under pressure from the reported. Operations Committee members were able to give feedback on a possible direct link option to FMCSA to file complaints to the National Consumer Complaint Database.

Our call was concluded with a legislative update from Capitol Hill. TIA staff briefed Operations Members about where our legislative priorities are in Congress. We touched on everything from our Motor Carrier Safety Selection Standard to soon to be introduced C-TPAT pilot program legislation.

TIA Watchdog is yet another tool for TIA members to utilize. Our association creates multiple tools and programs for our members that help grow their business and support their employees.

TIAPAC-A-Thon: Registration Is Open

This month the TIAPAC is launching its first-ever live-streamed event! The [PAC-A-THON](#) will take place this coming Wednesday, July 14th from 10am-12pm. Throughout the live webcast event, we will be hearing from the TIAPAC Board of Directors on topics ranging from rate transparency and the effects of double brokering to personal stories and the value of TIA membership. The event will also include various raffles and opportunities to hear directly from our members.

TIA President & CEO, Anne Reinke, will be making a guest appearance to kick-start the [event](#). The Government Affairs team, spear-headed by Vice President of Government Affairs, Chris Burroughs and accompanied by, Government Affairs Manager, Scott Marks will be hosting, providing live testimony, and elaborating on topics throughout the event to drive the 3PL industry-based conversation forward.

Again, the event will take place this Wednesday, July 14th, from 10am-12pm, [register for the event here](#).

CONTRIBUTOR

SARAH FAGEN
CEO | Deep Root Analytics
Exclusive 2022 Election Outlook

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