



# TIA ON THE HILL

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



## IN THIS ISSUE

---

**WHITE HOUSE TASK FORCE:  
RELEASES REPORT TO  
STRENGTHEN UNIONS**

---

**FEDERAL COURT RULES  
BROKERS NEGLIGENCE  
PREEMPTED BY FAANA**

---

**DHS HOLDS CONFERENCE  
CALL ON NORTHERN BORDER  
BLOCKADE**

---

**INFLATION ROSE 7.5% IN  
JANUARY 2022**

## **White House Task Force: Releases Report to Strengthen Unions**

On April 26, 2021, President Biden announced the formation of a new task force entitled, the “White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment.” This task force chaired by Vice President Harris and Vice-Chaired by U.S. Labor Secretary Marty Walsh, promulgated its missions as, “mobilizing the federal government’s policies, programs, and practices to empower workers to organize and successfully bargain with their employers.” The task force is comprised of over 20 cabinet members and the heads of federal agencies.

On February 7, 2022, the task force issued a set of recommendations that will make it easier for federal workers and contractors to unionize and allows the Departments of Transportation and Commerce to set preferences for federal grants to foster union jobs. Additionally, there will be a ban of federal contract dollars going to anti-union activities by the Defense, Health and Human Services and Labor Departments as well as the Office of Management and Budget.

Continued...

This is the latest move by President Biden and his Administration who are union and union priorities through and through. At the roll out of Executive Order 14025, the formulation of the Task Force, President Biden stated, "I promised you, you would have a union President. And I am, because you're the best."

TIA Government Affairs has been following the Department of Labor and the actions taken by the Department, as we knew this would likely be a troubling here for labor issues and independent contractors. We will continue to track these issues and advocate where necessary to protect our members and their interest.

## Federal Court Rules Brokers' Negligence Preempted by FAAAA

A federal court in Florida held that the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act or FAAAA preempts a negligence claim by a shipper against a broker for stolen goods. TIA Member US1 Industries made TIA aware of the ruling down in Florida. The case stemmed from the shipper's insurance company suing a broker for a stolen load of cell phone cases, which had an estimated value of over \$500k. The law firm that represented the broker, the Taylor Johnson firm successfully argued that the FAAAA prohibited states from enforcing laws that relate to the rates, routes, and service of transportation brokers.

This is a massive decision for the brokerage industry, as the reverse decision could lead to a situation where brokers are faced with a patchwork of 50 different state laws to navigate. That scenario is like what our members face with the motor carrier safety selection process, and why TIA has been pushing for years for a federal selection standard that would not only improve safety but give clarity and guidance to the industry of what steps should be taken before selecting a motor carrier.

TIA will continue to monitor decisions like this one and carry on with being the voice on Capitol Hill for the 3PL industry to hopefully get the clarity that our members need to reduce confusion in the marketplace that hurts all parties involved.

**TIA PAC**  
Transportation Intermediaries Association

**2022**  
**DOVE HUNT**

ADDITIONAL DETAILS  
TO BE ANNOUNCED  
**SPRING 2022**

Powered By:

**TRIUMPH PAY**  
THE PAYMENTS NETWORK FOR TRUCKING | Presentation Audit Payment

**13-14**  
**SEPTEMBER**  
ALBANY, TEXAS

**save**  
**the date**

---

## **DHS Holds Conference Call about Northern Blockade**

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) held a short evening call with stakeholders last week to discuss the ongoing Northern Border volatility stemming from the vaccine mandate handed down by the three federal governments in North America. The call focused on mitigating the actual road blockage via re-routing, not on the politics of the blockades themselves. The host of the call which included leadership from the trade staff, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and staff from field offices gave listeners alternative routes to take to avoid shutdown lanes. The Government took questions from the audience who asked about very specific situations and scenarios. For example, one caller asked about taking the Detroit Windsor Tunnel versus the traditionally used Ambassador bridge for certain types of freight, the government said this was ok during the emergency period of the blockade.

TIA will continue to monitor the blockade and the vaccine mandate from which the blockade stems from. More and more TIA members are communicating issues stemming from both of these actions. TIA also continues to engage with the press on these issues to be a leading voice in the supply chain. Please reach out to tell us how these policies, the blockade, and the vaccine mandate are impacting your business.

## **Inflation rose 7.5% in January 2022**

A new report released last week confirmed the fears of many that inflation has hit a 40-year high in January. On Thursday of last week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) under the Department of Labor produced its monthly data on the Consumer Price Index. From the report "The all-items index rose 7.5% percent for the 12 months ending January, the largest 12-month increase since the period ending February 1982." This increase in the price of goods for Americans is really viewed as a tax both by the economist class and politicians as it takes money directly out of the paycheck of hard-working Americans who have failed to receive higher wages to offset the high cost of goods they have not stopped paying for, or even increase in the number of goods they must purchase.

Price increases were widespread: a slight slowdown in the increase in energy prices at just 0.9% in January from the previous month, however, these prices are still up 27% from last year. Gasoline, on average, costs 40% more than it did last year. Food prices have also climbed 7% higher over the year, while used car and truck prices – a major component of the inflation increase – are up 40.5%.

These costs impact your business and have a direct cost on your bottom line and in your family's budget. The President should make a course correction in his administration's policies to adjust and adapt to a post-COVID-19 economy.