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



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## **TIA Host Congressional Briefing**

Last week, TIA hosted a Congressional briefing with over 50 congressional staffers. The successful event provided an opportunity for TIA President & CEO Anne Reinke, incoming Board Chair Mike Riccio, CTB, incoming Vice Chair of the Mark Christos, and TIA Vice President of Government Affairs Chris Burroughs, the opportunity to speak directly to congressional staff on the important role 3PLs play in the supply chain and throughout the American economy.

Mr. Riccio and Mr. Christos did an amazing job of describing the brokerage industry and why shippers and motor carriers rely on brokers. There were several questions from the staffers about CSA and carrier selection, the rate transparency issue, and the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine and the role of the broker during the pandemic.

This briefing is part of a larger effort within TIA to increase the presence of the Association and the greater 3PL industry on Capitol Hill by highlighting our members and the industry.

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## Not Red or Blue, But a Business Decision



Getting involved in TIA's Advocacy efforts is not a "Red" or "Blue" political issue; it is a business decision that directly impacts your bottom line. Think about it from a business perspective: if you do not spend the time, money, and effort in garnering customers and maintaining that relationship, there will be little to no results for your business. Government relations is no different!

We know politics is toxic, but the TIA Political Action Committee (TIAPAC) is not about picking political sides; rather it is about protecting the Association, our members' companies, and the greater 3PL industry. Every election cycle the TIA Board of Directors develops and implements a strategic disbursement plan that outlines the amount of money TIAPAC will need to potentially spend to protect the industry. For the 2022 Election Cycle, the TIAPAC Board has allotted \$325,000 in order to meet this goal. If you want to see action on any of the issues our Government Affairs team is working on, then what are you waiting? Donate TODAY and protect your industry. Ask us about becoming a **Platinum+ Donor** (\$5,000 level) and the tremendous benefits that come with that.

Key issues currently being addressed by TIAPAC and TIA Government Affairs:

- · Killing the Rate Transparency issue from OOIDA that requires you to show your margins; Eliminating
- Dispatch services and illegal brokerage activities;
- Stop the PRO Act in its tracks and Protecting the Independent Contractor
- A Federal Standard to reduce liability & improve safety; and
- Open the C-TPAT program finally to DOT licensed property brokers.

# TIME IS RUNNING OUT - GET YOUR TICKET NOW! Contact burroughs@tianet.org for your ticket.



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#### TIA Government Affairs on PRO Act

Last week, Chris Burroughs, TIA Vice President of Government Affairs, hosted TIA's weekly Lunch & Learn series to discuss 10 provisions in the PRO Act that TIA Members should be aware of and pay attention to. Here are the 10 issues that were highlighted on the webinar:

- End of state Right-to-Work laws;
- Striking employees can no longer be permanently replaced;
- "Secondary" strikes and boycotts will be fair game;
- Eroded distinctions between employees, independent contractors and supervisors;
- Federal arbitrators to impose terms of labor contracts;
- · Mandatory arbitration agreements and email systems;
- · Quickie elections and card checks;
- Blocking charge policy;
- Punitive damages, civil penalties, personal liabilities, private right to action; and
- · Mandatory injunctions and discharge and other cases.

You can access the full webinar, by clicking **HERE**.

### IRS Provides Guidance on Employee Retention Credit

As a result of the changes made by the newest relief act, the American Rescue Plan Act, eligible employers can now claim a refundable tax credit against the employer's share of Social Security tax equal to 70% of the qualified wages they pay to employees after December 31, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Qualified wages are limited to \$10,000 per employee per calendar quarter in 2021.

Thus, the maximum employee retention credit available is \$7,000 per employee per calendar quarter, for a total of \$14,000 for the first two calendar quarters.

Here are the new changes:

- Increases the maximum credit amount;
- Expansion of the category of employers that may be eligible to claim the credit; modifications to the gross receipts test;
- Revisions to the definition of qualified wages; and
- New restrictions on the ability of eligible employers to request an advance payment of the credit.

