



TIA ON THE HILL

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



U.S. Customs and Border Protection

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TIA Selected to Serve on Important CBP Task Force

Last week, TIA President & CEO Anne Reinke and TIA Staff met with officials from the U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP). As part of these discussions, TIA was invited to participate in an upcoming task force to develop a 21st Century Customs Framework (21CCF).

The task force will meet regularly to provide the Agency with industry feedback to help guide the direction of the Agency framework to remove customs modernization barriers, eliminate outdated requirements, and provide expanded legal flexibility.

TIA Vice President of Government Affairs Chris Burroughs will serve as the representative for the third-party logistics industry and represent the interest of DOT-licensed property brokers that participate in cross-border trade.

"I am honored and thrilled to serve on this extremely important task force that will help CBP modernize trade and secure the homeland - all while protecting and advocating for the interests of TIA Members," said Burroughs.

Congress Held Four Hearings Last Week on Transportation Issues



Last week, two separate Congressional Committees held three separate hearings over two-days, giving us the clearest indication to date that we are in the midst of "transportation season." Committees holding hearings included the Senate Environment & Public Works Committee, the Senate Banking Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the House Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee.

The first hearing, chaired by Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE), was focused on the pay-for methods of a long-term transportation re-authorization bill. Senators reaffirmed the position that the current system to fund the highway trust fund (HTF) is not working and unsustainable for future investment. There was a lot of focus on the current fuel tax system, the rise of electric vehicles becoming more readily available to Americans, the decreased reliance on traditional gas vehicles, and the negative impacts this has had on the HTF. Other issues that were raised during the hearing included potential "Green New Deal" and environmental provisions, which will likely be considered during the development of the legislation. The Senate Banking hearing, which has jurisdiction over transit issues, met to discuss moving forward on legislative priorities before their jurisdiction.

The House T&I hearings focused on hearing from Members of Congress who do not serve on the Committee to have their voice heard on what priorities are important to them and the districts that they represent. The other hearing was focused on a variety of issues that directly impact the maritime transportation industry, including reducing carbon emissions and international trade issues relating to China and Europe, as well as local issues like the port of LA-Long Beach and the issues that are currently faced at the port of large backlogs. These backlogs and delays have had major impacts on the supply-chain.

The House THUD Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, held a hearing with DOT Secretary Buttigieg to discuss funding priorities before the Committee. The THUD Subcommittee as appropriators will set the outlays on where the money from the Federal Government will be allocated. Secretary Pete called for a bipartisan approach to addressing our nation's infrastructure concerns.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO BE PART OF THIS AMAZING RAFFLE
 Contact burroughs@tianet.org to purchase your ticket

TIA^{PAC} **2021 GUN RAFFLE**
Transportation Intermediaries Association

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PER TICKET

100
TICKETS
AVAILABLE

LIMIT 1
TICKET
PER PERSON

ENDS
APRIL 30

Winner to Be Announced May 17

TIA Staff Visit Members in Maryland

Last week, TIA President and CEO Anne Reinke and TIA Government Affairs Manager Scott Marks traveled up to Maryland to visit with TIA Member companies Cowan Systems in Halethorpe and the Kenneth Clark Company in Columbia. The purpose of the visit was to hear directly from members about not only the best parts of being a TIA Member but the aspects of membership we can improve on. Each of these member companies received a legislative update from Capitol Hill to discuss a federal Motor Carrier Safety Selection Standard (MCSSS), the alarming issue of illicit dispatch services, and how TIAPAC is utilized in the Association's political efforts.

From all of us at TIA, thank you Cowan Systems and the Kenneth Clark Company for your hospitality and hosting us at your headquarters!

President Biden Selects Meera Joshi to Lead FMCSA

On April 14, 2021, President Joe Biden announced his intention to nominate Meera Joshi to serve as the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). Ms. Joshi has been serving as the FMCSA Acting Administrator since late January. This position does require a Senate confirmation.

Ms. Joshi previously served as commissioner of the New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission, which is the agency in charge of licensing and regulating the city's medallion taxicabs, for-hire vehicles, commuter vans and para-transit vehicles.

TIA Staff has met with Ms. Joshi and was extremely impressed with her knowledge and depth on transportation issues. We look forward to working with her to advance the priorities of the 3PL industry.

H.R. 1024, COVID-19 Supply Chain Resiliency Act

TIA has raised concerns directly with Congressional staff regarding, H.R. 1024, the "COVID-19 Supply Chain Resiliency Act." While we support the spirit of the bill, unfortunately when the legislation is implemented, 3PLs will not be included in the "National Security Plan" that the legislation calls for.

The bill calls for a new office in the White House, which will focus on the recovery aspect of the pandemic. There is to be consultation with the private sector on the best path forward to recovery and normalization of the supply chain. Unfortunately, in that consultation, 3PLs were not included in the final legislation.

TIA Government Affairs will be working with staff in the committee to ensure that any further movement on the bill will be amended to reflect the role our members play in this recovery and the larger supply chain.

