



TIA ON THE HILL

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



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& Infrastructure**

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Highway Bill Includes Dispatch Service Language

The House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee led by Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-4th/OR) released the INVEST Act on Friday, which is the surface transportation re-authorization bill. There are several provisions included in the legislation that TIA staff are keeping a close eye on that could potentially impact our members.

With that being said, TIA has scored a major victory by having language included in the base text that requires the Department of Transportation to issue guidance to clarify the definition and roles of brokers and bona fide agents. Additionally, the language asks the Agency to consider the impact of technology and the role of dispatch services in the freight transportation industry. Furthermore, it requires the Agency to clarify the financial penalties for unauthorized brokerage activities.

This has been a major issue for TIA members over the past few years as more and more dispatch services have entered the marketplace and have continued to illegally broker freight on behalf of multiple motor carriers. TIA firmly believes that a dispatch service can only be a bona fide agent for one motor carrier only, and will work with the Agency to make sure this is the direction that is taken. TIA thanks Chairman DeFazio for including this important provision.

T&I Committee Releases Bill Text for Highway Re-Authorization



The Committee Transportation and Infrastructure in the House of Representatives, Chaired by Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-4th /OR) released their long-awaited Infrastructure reauthorization bill, which directly reauthorizes the FAST Act.

TIA received several major victories today with the inclusion of several key priorities and the omission of any sort of rate transparency language that would be devastating to our industry. Another major win for the Association.

Other key provisions include in the base text, include:

- A one-year mandate to finally fix CSA and move forward with an updated Safety Fitness Determination rulemaking that would amend the safety rating process and give brokers a red light / green light system in their carrier selection process.
- Language to address dispatch services and illegal brokerage activities.
- \$1 billion in grant funding for States to address CMV trucking parking shortage.
- Requirements for a rule to be implemented on a reasonable amount of time of detention time a motor carrier can be subject to.
- Comprehensive study of the current hours-of-service rules.
- Development of a woman in trucking advisory board.
- Increasing minimum insurance for motor carriers from \$750,000 to \$2 million.
- Study on the impact of longer trains and accident and incident reports.
- Establishment of freight train safety standards for crew size, including a two-person mandate.

TIA is grateful for having a seat at the table. TIA will continue to work with the Committee in a bipartisan manner to hopefully include H.R. 3042 in the Bill later in the process. TIA is very pleased with securing these major victories in the released bill text.

Less Than 5 Spots Remain!

TIA Connect: Join the Discussion Today!

[TIA Connect](#) is an online platform designed to increase member engagement and participation within the organization. The platform allows our members to network, ask questions, and share resources as well as their professional experiences. [TIA Connect](#) is a great way to get involved with the association as our staff utilizes the platform to bring you the latest updates on key issues and resources within the transportation and logistics industry.

With TIA's network of 1,700+ member companies and nearly 10,000 3PL professionals, there is a community for everyone with [TIA Connect](#) – from the C-Suite Executive with 20+ years' experience to the broker who is completely new to the industry.

- Have questions about how to deal with a particular logistics issue?
- Wish you had access to the knowledge bank of industry peers?
- Looking to mentor or advise new professionals in the industry?
- Want to network and grow your industry connections?
- Have a whitepaper, report, or other resources to share?
- Looking for a vendor recommendation or referral?
- Want easy access to model contracts and frameworks?

If you answered YES to just one of those questions, then [TIA Connect](#) is the place for you!

If you have not done so already, we encourage you to login to the TIA Connect platform using the same credentials you use for the TIA website and complete your user profile. You can add a picture, bio, education, and job history; and choose which profile fields you wish to display to your industry peers!

There are many great communities and discussions already happening on the platform. Don't miss your opportunity to engage with your industry peers – join the discussion today!

TIA Airfreight & International Logistics Conference Meeting

Last week, during the quarterly meeting for the Airfreight and International Logistics Conference Committee, TIA had the privilege of being joined by the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) Commissioner Carl Bentzel. This represented another great opportunity for our members to hear directly from and ask questions, with a Presidential appointed member of the Federal Government, who has jurisdiction over a large aspect of our membership. TIA thanks the Commissioner and his Counsel John Young for their time and support on a variety of issues.

Commissioner Bentzel was gracious with his time and touched on wide range of issues from COVID-19 impacting the industry, detention and demurrage, and major port congestion and delays. The Commissioner is focused on congestion across our country's ports, but especially at the ports of New York and Long Beach/LA.

The Commissioner closed the meeting by fielding questions directly from members on topics ranging from container shortages, agriculture shipments, COVID impact on industry and many more.

If you would like more information TIA's Policy Committees, please contact TIA Government Affairs Manager, Scott Marks at marks@tianet.org.