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## TIA ON THE HILL

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



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TIA Call to Action: TIA Members, as you know over the last year and a half, we have been working diligently on your behalf to include DOT licensed property brokers into the C-TPAT program, a public/private partnership focused on hardening the supply chain. Department of Homeland Security's decision more than 10 years ago to exclude you from C-TPAT has cost you all countless business opportunities.

Please tell your Senators and Representatives to support S. 2322/H.R. 6826, the "C-TPAT Pilot Program Act" on the Senate /House Floor. TIA is proud to announce that both pieces of legislation were approved at the Committee level with unanimous support. There continues to be no opposition to the legislation. TIA members have waited over 12 years for eligibility into a program that, quite frankly, we should have been part of on day one.

As we mentioned, in 2008, the Federal Government rolled out the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT). The program is a "trusted partner"; program that allows the private sector to support national security by undertaking minimum security requirements. Once the requirements are met, a supply chain entity can quickly and efficiently enter the country.

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Non-asset-based, DOT licensed property brokers were excluded from this. A broker, once entered, would open themselves up to new business opportunities.

Now with the help of Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle, S. 2322/ H.R. 6826 has been introduced and been voted on in Committee with no opposition. This legislation will allow up to 10 previously neglected companies to become C-TPAT Certified. Let's work together and get this legislation passed. Tell your elected official to co-sponsor the bills and to support Floor votes for S. 2322 and H.R. 6826!!

This link, with a pre-written note, calls on your elected leaders to co-sponsor and support S.2322 and H.R 6826. https://www.votervoice.net/Transportation/campaigns/86916/respond

## **TIA Vetting Legislation on Trusted Credentials**

TIA is reviewing a new bill that we believe would support our members. H.R. 6571, the "TSA Security Threat Assessment Application Modernization Act." H.R. 6571 is a bipartisan bill with 19 co-sponsors compromised of 16 Democrats and 3 Republicans. The bill has been referred to House Committee on Homeland Security. TIA has become close with the staff of Members on the Committee due to our effort relating to including TIA members in the C-TPAT program.

As many of you know from your experience with C-TPAT, following the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the Federal Government fundamentally changed the supply chain by adding more scrutiny and government involvement at every level including the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT) program, Transportation Security Administration, (TSA) Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC), hazardous materials endorsement (HME) and many more. By doing so they created layers of enrollment and never centralized or streamlined the process. The enrollment process is per program, not department-wide creating a scattered enrollment that unnecessarily costs money and man-hours. Our members are eager to enroll in these TSA programs to help grow their business and joining the public/private partnership that the Federal Government offers can be challenging.

The bill would direct the Administer of the Transportation Security Administration, over 24 months, to overhaul the current enrollment for the program into a single, standardized enrollment and renewal portal to align expiration dates and the process that individuals who are interested in these programs must take. The individual will be able to enroll in more than one of the programs at no additional cost. This legislation will save interested individuals both time and money.

If you have any feedback on this or any other issues you have heard about, please do not hesitate to reach out.

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## TIA Looking for Feedback on Detention & Demurrage

TIA is seeking your feedback on how demurrage and detention billing and fees have impacted your business and the supply chain. The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) led by Commissioner Rebecca Dye over the past few years has undertaken a fact-finding mission to identify operational solutions to cargo delivery system challenges related to recent global events.

More recently, the FMC has published in the Federal Register a notice and comment seeking input from stakeholders to more than a dozen crucial questions about demurrage and detention practices. TIA members have told us that these fees by maritime terminal operators are more like a revenue generator than an incentive mechanism.

We are seeking your help in answering these questions. The FMC has recently granted a 30-day extension allowing the publicm to submit their responses, they now have until April 16, 2022. The questions range from standardization of billing requirements to parties that should be subject to invoicing and the time frame that billing must take place.

If you and your business are active in the drayage and are an NVOCC, please contact TIA advocacy to make yourself available to assist us and shape the conversation around demurrage and detention. This is your chance to have your voice heard in the regulatory process.

