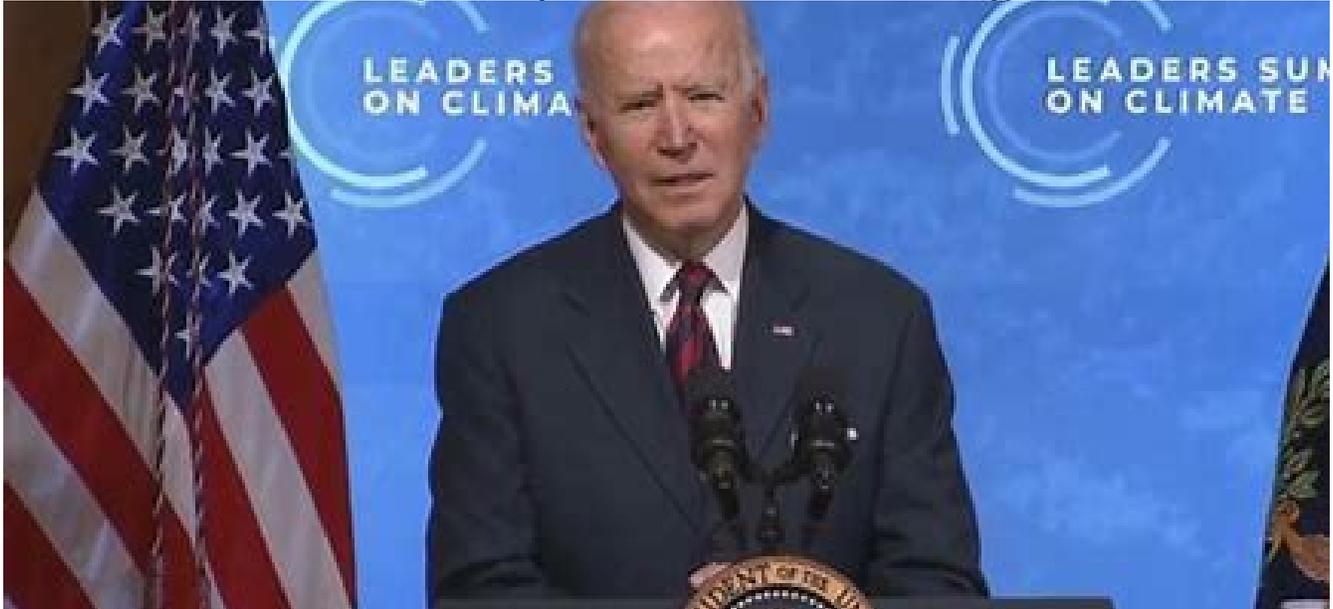




## ON THE HILL

A Weekly Advocacy Update from TIA

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



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### **Biden to Phase Out Transportation Emissions**

On Tuesday, The Biden administration blueprinted a strategy that uses billions of dollars to expand the use of electric vehicles (EV's) in an effort to eliminate carbon emissions from automobiles by 2050.

The new blueprint outlines how the administration plans to spend record levels of funding, and where it plans to disburse the monies to. White House officials hope that these new efforts along with bills like the Inflation Reduction Act and the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law will result in positive results in combatting climate change. Included in the plan are methods to ensure the right infrastructure is available for EV's and beginning the transition to EV's by 2030-2040 range. By 2050, the administration hopes to be 100% carbon free.

This blueprint was collaboratively made by the Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Transportation Research Board. The administration sees a realistic path to net zero emissions by 2050 via electric vehicles. The funding contains \$7.5 billion for EV charging stations and \$66 billion for Amtrak in hopes of electrifying more rail systems.

The EPA plans to dip its hand into the act as well. Implementation of policies like the Clean Trucks Plan and fuel efficiency standards are two ways the EPA plans to fight the emissions as well. For light duty vehicles, the administration hopes to have half of new vehicles be EV by 2030, and all lighter duty vehicles to be zero-emission by 2027.

As this policy progresses, TIA will keep you updated!

## **FTC Releases Latest NPRM on Noncompete Clauses**

On January 5th, The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) announced a proposed new rule making that would bar employers from enforcing noncompete clauses on their employees. The agency's reason for putting this potential new rule on notice is because in their eyes, noncompete clauses "limit competition and suppress wages." They tie that all in by estimating wages would increase by \$300 billion.

TIA is aware that several TIA Members utilize non-compete clauses in their businesses and this notice of proposed rulemaking could impact the 3PL industry. Noncompete clauses have been around for years. They have been common addendums in contracts for every industry imaginable. Not just the 3PL, but we hear it all the time in college football coaching and large corporations too. As stated above, those against the clause claim it is anti-business and suppress one's wage potential. Those for it claim it provides security within the workforce, meaning that poaching of one's employers won't be tolerated.

As we get closer to the comment period end, TIA will look to get members' opinions on the matter to potentially take an official position as an association.

## **FAA Computer Failures' Timeline**

The system that failed to work and caused the biggest flight disruption since 9/11 was the computer system that notifies pilots about safety issues. All planes were grounded for nearly two hours. With the holiday chaos surrounding flights during Christmas, this latest system failure is exacerbating an already fragile airline industry. The timeline as reported by Alex Daugherty of Politico is as follows:

Jan. 10:

3:28 p.m. — The FAA computer system that notifies pilots about certain safety issues fails for unexplained reasons.

7:47 p.m. — The agency's air traffic command center in Warrenton, Va., issues its first public notice of the computer breakdown and sets up an outage hotline.

8:20 p.m. — The FAA issues a fuller notification of the computer failure and says technicians are "working to restore the system."

Jan. 11:

6:27 a.m. — United Airlines issues a nationwide ground stop.

7:01 a.m. — Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg tweets about the outage.

7:21 a.m. — The FAA announces a nationwide "ground stop," halting all flights aside from those involving military aircraft and medical evacuations.

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7:37 a.m. — The agency terminates the outage hotline.

8:54 a.m. — Buttigieg tweets that ground stop will be lifted, writing that the agency has "determined that the safety system affected by the overnight outage is fully restored."

9:07 a.m. — The FAA allows full air service to resume. More than 8,500 flights had been delayed and more than 1,200 had been canceled on Wednesday, a backlog that will take hours to resolve.

2:00 p.m. — Buttigieg tells reporters that a backup system went into effect the previous evening, but there were issues in the accuracy of information flowing into the system. FAA called for a reboot of the system at 5 a.m., and the ground stop was put in place until it was verified that the system was operating correctly.

## **Political Ads Back on Twitter**

Twitter will be lifting its ban on political ads soon saying it will accept issue-based paid content. Fundraisers and advertisers are chopping at the bit given Twitter is the biggest social media channel we have right now. The more people they can unveil content to the better for marketing efforts and hopefully fundraising.

Musk's primary motivation to release the ban seems to be for acquiring another source of revenue for Twitter. In defense of the policy change, Twitter claims that cause-based political advertising will enhance public conversation and be healthy for the longevity of the social media giant's discourse among users. If their goal is to be the conversation forum for a long time, politics is not a bad place to start; we all have our opinions, and Twitter wants you to opine now.