

February 3, 2022

The Honorable Darin LaHood U.S. House of Representatives 1424 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Troy Balderson U.S. House of Representatives 2429 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Henry Cuellar U.S. House of Representatives 2372 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Josh Harder U.S. House of Representatives 209 Cannon HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressmen LaHood, Balderson, Cuellar, and Harder:

On behalf of the Truckload Carriers Association (TCA), I am writing to thank you for introducing H.R. 6567, the Licensing Individual Commercial Exam-takers Now Safely and Efficiently (LICENSE) Act, in an effort to remove inefficiencies in the nation's supply chain and expedite the movement of goods across the country as it continues to rebound from the challenges caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

TCA applauds the effort to make permanent waivers granted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) over the last two years. The "Waiver for States Concerning Third Party CDL Skills Test Examiners In Response to the COVID-19 Emergency" has demonstrated success in helping to alleviate the backlog of commercial learner's permit (CLP) holders wishing to take the knowledge tests to obtain their commercial driver's license (CDL). As FMCSA stated in its waiver, there is an overlap in training topics between the skills and knowledge tests, and the requirements on states to provide additional materials to trainers utilizing this waiver ensure this flexibility does not pose a threat to the safety of our nation's highways.

Furthermore, the "Three-Month Waiver in Response to the COVID-19 Emergency – For States and CLP Holders Operating Commercial Motor Vehicles" has been especially valuable for TCA's membership through the ability for a CLP holder who has passed their CDL skills test but has not yet received the physical license to operate a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) without their accompanying licensed CDL holder being present in the front seat of the vehicle. The CDL holder is still present in the cab but will most likely be in the sleeper berth. This has enabled many of TCA's members to better utilize their driving workforce without sacrificing safety, since the CLP holder has proven that they are fully capable of safely operating a CMV by passing the CDL skills test. In conjunction with other congressional efforts through the recently passed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to bolster the trucking industry's labor force, this flexibility will continue to prove valuable in the years ahead.

Thank you again for introducing this important legislation, and we look forward to working with you to advance it.

Sincerely,

Call-

John Lyboldt President