



November 19, 2021

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
U.S. Senate  
555 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Senator Wicker:

On behalf of the Truckload Carriers Association (TCA), I am writing to thank you for introducing S. 3262, the Facilitating Relief for Efficient Intermodal Gateways to Handle Transportation (FREIGHT) 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.

In particular, TCA applauds the inclusion of language to make permanent the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) "Waiver for States Concerning Third Party CDL Skills Test Examiners In Response to the COVID-19 Emergency." This waiver has already demonstrated success in helping to alleviate the backlog of commercial learner's permit holders wishing to take the knowledge tests to obtain their commercial driver's license. During the pandemic, as many State Driver Licensing Agencies were closed or operating at a diminished capacity, this flexibility was desperately needed. 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. Thanks to 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,

John Lyboldt  
President