



October 20, 2015

The Honorable William Shuster
2268 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3809

Dear Chairman Shuster,

It is my understanding that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will mark up the Highway Bill on Thursday, October 22nd. I write on behalf of the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors (NAW) to encourage the inclusion of language to authorize an increase in the length of twin trailers from 28 feet to 33 feet. If enacted, this modest proposal will assist wholesaler-distributors, which rely on our nation's over-the-road freight transportation system in the day-to-day conduct of their businesses, in the performance of a core competency: the provision of cost-efficient, consistent and reliable customer service.

NAW is the "national voice of wholesale distribution," an association comprised of companies of all sizes and national, regional, state and local line-of-trade associations spanning the \$5.4 trillion wholesale distribution industry that employs more than 5.8 million workers in the United States. Approximately 40,000 enterprises with places of business in all 50 states and the District of Columbia are affiliated with NAW.

As you know, the current gross vehicle weight limit under Federal law is 80,000 pounds. Today, typical shipments carried by 28 foot trailers at capacity volume frequently do not reach that limit. The significant increase in volume that will be accommodated by a five-foot increase in trailer length will result in less truck traffic and traffic congestion, fewer vehicle crashes, and reduced fuel consumption and carbon emissions. In sum, an increase in the length of twin trailers from 28 feet to 33 feet will have positive transportation efficiency, safety, energy and environmental implications that will benefit all Americans.

Thank you for your consideration of NAW's views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James A. Anderson, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James A. Anderson, Jr.
Vice President-Government Relations

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WHOLESALER-DISTRIBUTORS

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