

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 13

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS
3 ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE
4 OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

5 We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of
6 the State of Idaho assembled in the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth
7 Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

8 WHEREAS, one of the most significant ways to improve freight system per-
9 formance on the highways of the western United States is through the use of
10 more efficient trucks and truck combinations; and

11 WHEREAS, longer combination vehicles (LCV) have demonstrated over the
12 past two decades considerable benefits to the general public in terms of in-
13 creased productivity, higher safety ratings, increased fuel savings, emis-
14 sion reductions and a straightforward method of addressing congestion miti-
15 gation; and

16 WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration's "Western State Scenario
17 Analysis" found that expanded use of LCVs in thirteen western states would
18 reduce heavy truck vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 25% in 2010, reduce fuel
19 consumption and emissions by 12%, save shippers two billion dollars a year,
20 reduce pavement costs as much as 4% and reduce highway noise by 10%; and

21 WHEREAS, a Federal Highway Administration "freeze" on state authority
22 to expand the use of LCVs has been in place since 1991; and

23 WHEREAS, since 1991, there has been substantial population and vehicle
24 registration growth and significant increases in VMT, emissions and conges-
25 tion growth; and

26 WHEREAS, Congress is now deliberating the approval of a new national
27 transportation funding reauthorization bill that could take advantage of
28 new transportation strategies to improve highway efficiency, reduce VMT,
29 assist in reducing traffic congestion and reduce fuel consumption while
30 reducing air pollution emissions.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
32 sion of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the
33 Senate concurring therein, that we urge the Congress of the United States to
34 support and vote to lift the LCV freeze in the 13 western states of Arizona,
35 Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon,
36 South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. In lifting this freeze, the Fed-
37 eral Highway Administration will give to these states the flexibility to es-
38 tablish and operate pilot test programs to evaluate LCV routes, configura-
39 tions and operating conditions. These pilot programs can provide the means
40 for these 13 western states to gain uniformity in the oversight of LCVs as
41 means to realize the benefits from LCV operations in each of these states and
42 throughout the western United States.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representa-
2 tives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this
3 Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Rep-
4 resentatives of Congress, and the congressional delegation representing the
5 State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.