

A M E R I C A N S F O R M O D E R N TRANSPORTATION

February 12, 2020

The Honorable Deb Fischer United States Senate Chairman, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Transportation and Safety 512 Dirksen Senate Building Washington DC, 20510

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth United States Senate Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Transportation and Safety 525 Hart Senate Office Building Washington DC, 20510

Dear Chairman Fischer and Ranking Member Duckworth:

Given the focus on safety technologies during the recent hearing, "Keep on Truckin': Stakeholder Perspectives on Trucking in America," the members of the Americans for Modern Transportation Coalition want to share with you our approach to increasing roadway safety and reducing wear and tear on our national infrastructure.

Our proposal to modernize federal regulations and allow for a modest five-foot length increase to twin 28' trailers would reduce congestion at no cost to taxpayers, increase safety, maximize efficiency and reduce carbon emissions. Our Twin 33' trailer proposal is a common sense solution with multiple benefits:

- Improved Road Safety The reduction in the number of trucks on our roads would have tangible safety benefits. Additionally, Twin 33' trailers perform better than many other truck configurations on four critical safety measures, including stability and rollover. Research shows that the adoption of Twin 33' trailers would result in 4,500 fewer truck accidents annually, and 53.2 million hours saved due to less congestion. Our Twin 33 proposal includes the following additional safety features on Twin 33s that will enhance road safety as they travel on the existing national highway network:
  - Automatic emergency braking system
  - A speed limiting device capped at 68 miles per hour
  - Electronic stability control
  - On-board safety video recorder
- **Environmental Gains** The efficiency gains from the adoption of Twin 33' trailers would equate to 255 million fewer gallons of fuel and 2.9 million fewer tons of CO2 emissions.

- Economic Benefits Twin 33' trailers can move the same amount of freight with 18% fewer truck trips, allowing consumers and businesses to realize \$2.6 billion annually in lower shipping costs and quicker delivery times.
- Longer Life Cycle for Our Roads and Bridges The implementation of Twin 33' trailers will result in 3.1 billion fewer truck miles traveled each year, greatly reducing the impact on roads and bridges at no cost to taxpayers.

Private investment and modernization of our truck standards will drive immediate and future benefits for our nation's transportation system. Twin 33s already successfully operate in 20 states, and we know that this transportation solution would benefit consumers, businesses and so many others across our country.

I have also attached a <u>study</u> by Ronald R. Knipling, Ph.D., "Twin 33 Foot Truck Trailers: Making U.S. Freight Transport Safer And More Efficient" for your consideration. We would be happy to discuss our proposal with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Kandy Mullet

Randy Mullett Executive Director, The Americans for Modern Transportation Coalition

