

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 14, 2022

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## **Statement of Support for H.R. 7517, Guaranteeing Overtime for Truckers Act**

*Washington, DC* – The Truck Safety Coalition strongly supports H.R. 7517, [Guaranteeing Overtime for Truckers Act](#) (GOT Truckers Act) introduced by Congressman Andy Levin (D-MI-09). This bi-partisan bill would eliminate the unfair and anti-safe Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) Motor Carrier Overtime Exemption that prohibits truck drivers from qualifying for overtime pay. TSC President & Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways Board Member Dawn King applauds the bill saying, “Every second Congress allows the FLSA Motor Carrier Exemption to exist, lives are recklessly and needlessly put at risk. I know firsthand the ultimate price that is paid by the failure to fairly compensate truck drivers for their time. We thank Congressman Levin for taking action to eliminate this lethal loophole. The GOT Truckers Act will undoubtedly save lives and substantially reduce truck crash deaths and injuries.”

The GOT Truckers Act is additionally supported by the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association (OOIDA), The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Parents Against Tired Truckers (P.A.T.T.), Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways (CRASH), and the Institute for Safer Trucking (IST). Todd Spencer, President & CEO of OOIDA points out that “Shippers, receivers, and carriers have never been forced to account for all the hours that they keep drivers waiting since it costs them nothing to do so. By repealing the FLSA exemption, this bill would help make sure that drivers are compensated for all the hours they work.”

Nearly 5,000 people, including over 800 truck drivers, lose their lives in truck crashes annually. Additionally, another 146,000 are injured. These figures are unacceptable and demand action. TSC urges all members of Congress to co-sponsor this bipartisan, life-saving legislation. Research indicates that when truck labor rates are fair, there is less incidence of driver fatigue, fewer

regulatory violations, and a reduction in crash rates.<sup>1</sup> Contact your legislators today and urge them to support the GOT Trucker's Act to help make our roads safer for everyone, including truck drivers.

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*The Truck Safety Coalition (TSC) is a partnership between Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways (CRASH), also known as The CRASH Foundation, and Parents Against Tired Truckers (P.A.T.T.). The Truck Safety Coalition is dedicated to reducing the number of deaths and injuries caused by truck-related crashes, providing compassionate support to truck crash survivors and families of truck crash victims, and educating the public, policymakers, and the media about truck safety issues. Visit our website at <https://trucksafety.org>*

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<sup>1</sup> Ju, Shengyang and Belzer, Michael H., Pay Incentives, Working Time, and Safety: Evidence from U.S. Intrastate Trucking Companies. Available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4046436>