

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 27, 2020

Roger Wicker
Chairman
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington DC, 20510

Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Chairman Wicker and Ranking Member Cantwell:

We write to encourage you to begin consideration of legislation that provides greater flexibility within hours of service (HOS) regulations for commercial motor vehicle drivers hauling livestock and agricultural products, while also protecting public safety. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

As you know, in the absence of congressional action, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (Public Law 114-94) is set to expire on September 30, 2020. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee recently passed the America's Transportation Infrastructure Act of 2019, which reauthorizes many of our nation's surface transportation programs. As the Senate Commerce Committee has jurisdictional oversight over Hours of Service regulations applicable to commercial motor vehicles, we respectfully request that your committee work with us to provide greater flexibility for haulers of agricultural products while protecting public safety.

The unique circumstances involved in the transport of perishable and live goods warrant flexible laws and regulations to ensure a safe environment, not only for all of those who travel our roads, but also for the animals and goods being transported. It is important that Hours of Service regulations provide for a commonsense framework for drivers, rather than a one-size-fits-all model.

We look forward to working with you and the Senate Commerce Committee to provide common-sense regulatory flexibility within the hours of service that uphold safety while ensuring the efficient and humane delivery of products to market. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ **John Hoeven**
John Hoeven
United States Senator

/s/ **Michael Bennet**
Michael Bennet
United States Senator

/s/ **Cory Gardner**
Cory Gardner
United States Senator

/s/ **Doug Jones**
Doug Jones
United States Senator

/s/ **Steve Daines**
Steve Daines
United States Senator

/s/ **Tina Smith**
Tina Smith
United States Senator

/s **Deb Fischer**
Deb Fischer
United States Senator

/s/ **Jon Tester**
Jon Tester
United States Senator

/s/ **John Barrasso**
John Barrasso
United States Senator

/s/ **M. Michael Rounds**
M. Michael Rounds
United States Senator

/s/ **Ben Sasse**
Ben Sasse
United States Senator

/s/ **Joni K. Ernst**
Joni K. Ernst
United States Senator

/s/ **Mike Crapo**
Mike Crapo
United States Senator

/s/ **Kevin Cramer**
Kevin Cramer
United States Senator

/s/ **Mike Braun**
Mike Braun
United States Senator

/s/ **John Cornyn**
John Cornyn
United States Senator

/s/ **Lamar Alexander**
Lamar Alexander
United States Senator

/s/ **John Thune**
John Thune
United States Senator

/s/ David Perdue
David Perdue
United States Senator

/s/ Martha McSally
Martha McSally
United States Senator

/s/ Mike Enzi
Mike Enzi
United States Senator

/s/ Roy Blunt
Roy Blunt
United States Senator

/s/ James Lankford
James Lankford
United States Senator

/s/ James M. Inhofe
James M. Inhofe
United States Senator