

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations

April 26, 2018

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support amendment 140 to ensure uniform trucking standards to H.R. 4, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018, offered by Reps. Jeff Denham (R-CA), Henry Cuellar (D-TX) and Jim Costa (D-CA).

Manufacturers operate in a just-in-time business climate where competitiveness relies heavily on transportation efficiency, especially in the trucking sector. Manufacturers must be able to quickly and cost effectively move goods across state borders within a uniform set of rules. Congestion already increases the cost of moving freight by \$63 billion annually. At the same time, transportation services are an increasing cost due to driver shortages and increased demand.

Based on 2014 litigation targeting the trucking industry, the Ninth Circuit Court narrowly interpreted and reversed the intent of a 20-year old law, the Federal Aviation Administration Authorization Act of 1994 (FAAAA). FAAAA ensured interstate truck drivers had one set of "hours of service" requirements. The decision subjected drivers to patchwork state regulations in addition to federal rules. Duplicative requirements create unnecessary confusion for the driver and excessive costs and liabilities to shippers.

Manufacturers support this bipartisan amendment because it clarifies the intent of current law to ensure motor carriers can operate under one standard, avoiding a patchwork of different state laws.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on amendment 140 to H.R. 4, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 115th Congress. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Aric Newhouse

Key Manufacturing Vote