

Actions to Reduce Impediments to Interstate Commerce Harmonizing Requirements for Truck Permits

Whereas the nation's highway system is central to economic growth, job creation, and the performance of the U.S. economy, and a key contributor to American competitiveness in the global marketplace;

Whereas highways are the single most important element of the nation's freight transportation infrastructure—carrying 75 percent of all domestic tonnage;

Whereas trip time and reliability are critical in today's "just-in-time" economy;

Whereas it is essential that steps be taken to guarantee that the movement of freight on highways is as efficient and productive as possible.

Whereas measures to improve the efficiency of freight transportation require close collaboration between government and business;

Whereas states are responsible for the issuance of permits to allow the movement of shipments that exceed standard limits for weight or dimension;

Whereas these shipments have grown in number and importance in recent years, especially in sectors critical to security and the growth of the economy;

Whereas unintended and unnecessary differences in requirements for permits result in delays to the industry resulting in increased product cost to the end user.

Whereas, since 1937, the AASHTO Subcommittee on Highway Transport has maintained the Guide for Vehicle Weights and Dimensions;

Whereas the Subcommittee on Highway Transport has identified certain truck permit requirements that can be harmonized among states without compromising safety or infrastructure preservation;

Whereas harmonizing truck permit requirements among states will improve customer service, reduce costs, and increase efficiency in state government;

Now, therefore be it resolved that AASHTO member states are committed to harmonizing permit requirements between states, among states in regions, and on multi-state corridors; and,

Be it further resolved that by this resolution the AASHTO Board of Directors establishes a truck permit harmonization initiative to focus initially on the following requirement (categories consistent with the AASHTO Guide for Vehicle Weights and Dimensions);

- Escort Requirements
- Warning Flags
- Warning Lights
- Warning Signs
- Days and Hours of Operation, and

Be it further resolved that the Subcommittee on Highway Transport will identify additional candidates for truck permit harmonization, coordinate with private sector shippers and carriers, and provide regular progress reports.