



Safer Highways and Increased Performance for Interstate Trucking (SHIP IT) Act – H.R. 471

Sponsored by: Rep. Dusty Johnson (S.D.-AL) and Rep. Jim Costa (CA-21)

Background:

The COVID pandemic highlighted severe gaps in our supply chain system, and these issues continue to impact everyday Americans and businesses. It is important to learn from recent experiences of supply chain breakdowns and act now to improve freight movement and safety rather than wait for new or continued transportation supply chain problems.

Last year, Congress made significant progress by updating U.S. ocean shipping laws for the first time in more than two decades. However, it is clear more reforms are needed.

This package seeks to provide a comprehensive approach to the pain points in the supply chain by focusing on increasing shipping capacity, lessening burdens on current and future truck drivers, providing incentives to recruit and retain drivers, and allowing additional flexibilities during times of emergency.

Legislation:

The SHIP IT Act includes a number of initiatives that would help add fluidity to the movement of freight in America.

Specifically, the bill:

- Modernizes the authority for certain vehicle waivers during emergencies
- Allows truck drivers to apply for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grants
- Incentivizes new truck drivers to enter the workforce through targeted and temporary tax credits
- Streamlines the CDL process, making it easier for states and third parties to administer CDL tests
- Expands access to truck parking and rest facilities for commercial drivers

This bipartisan bill will improve our supply chain and keep costs down for consumers by making it easier for shippers to move products to every corner of the United States.

To cosponsor H.R. 471: please contact Elizabeth.Lloyd@mail.house.gov