

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 28, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden  
White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

We write to urge you to take advantage of the options available to your Administration to alleviate the supply chain crisis, specifically with respect to the over-the-road shippers.

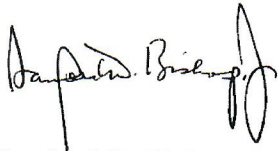
All across the United States prices for goods are increasing in large part because demand has surpassed the available capacity of our supply chains. One way to immediately increase this capacity for one of the most vital links in the supply chain, the shippers, is to increase the Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) on the Federal Interstates. In addition to getting goods to market more quickly, providing a waiver to increase GVW limits would reduce harmful carbon emissions and keep our highways safe.

As you know, Governor Gavin Newsom recently announced that California will issue temporary permits to increase weight limits for trucks to 88,000-pounds, up from the Federally set 80,000-pounds, for intermodal shipping containers. Governor Mike DeWine reinstated an executive order that allows trucks in Ohio to carry up to 90,000-pounds. A number of other states do not need such special actions because their laws already permit such weights. Allowing for additional capacity will immediately provide relief from the current supply chain crisis. These actions will prevent trucks from being sent out one quarter empty, can significantly ease the current supply chain burdens, and again show that increasing gross vehicle weight limits is a safe, environmentally-friendly, and efficient solution. Yet to have an important impact on the supply chain, these actions need to be replicated throughout the entirety of the Federal Interstate system.

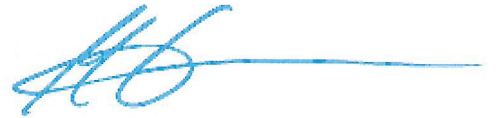
In fact, companies across the United States have already proven that they can take advantage of this waiver safely. A provision of the CARES Act allowed states to issue permits allowing trucks to operate above federal weight limits on Interstates during the COVID-19 crisis to provide much-needed supplies to families and communities. While this waiver authority was available for only 120 days, companies across the US were able to take advantage of this provision and found an increase in efficiency and a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions with no increased safety risk when they were able to fill trucks to a higher capacity. One company was able to increase its vehicle capacity by an average of 2,786 pounds per shipment. This reduced shipments by 600, the miles traveled by 51,472 miles, and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 165,000 pounds, just because of the increased capacity of the vehicles.

As Congress continues to deliberate ways to make our supply chain more efficient, safe, and carbon neutral, we urge you to take immediate action to ease the supply chain crunch, including by increasing the GVW limit. Our offices stand ready to assist you in any way we can with this important endeavor and will continue to look for legislative ways to address the supply chain crisis through increasing the Gross Vehicle Weight Limit.

Sincerely,



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Mike Gallagher  
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao  
Member of Congress



Jim Costa  
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Chuck Fleischmann  
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