

April 7, 2020

The Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.  
Governor  
State of Maryland  
Chair  
National Governors Association  
444 North Capitol St., NW #267  
Washington, DC 20001

The Honorable Andrew Cuomo  
Governor  
State of New York  
Vice Chair  
National Governors Association  
444 North Capitol St, NW #267  
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Governor Hogan and Governor Cuomo:

On behalf of the following businesses and associations, we write to you and all Governors, urging specific and immediate executive action to address a critical threat to our nation's ability to move medical supplies, food, and other freight. We specifically urge all Governors to:

- Clarify existing executive orders or decrees to ensure Commercial Driver License Training Schools (CDL Schools) and State Driver's License Agencies (SDLAs) are considered "essential services."
- Implement additional measures (as outlined below) so SDLAs can continue to test and license individuals while maintaining COVID-19 health safety protocols.

### **CDL Schools and SDLAs Are Essential Services**

To date, many Governors have wisely used state executive orders or other decrees to deem transportation roles essential to the supply chain. However, we believe these same executive orders or decrees need to be clarified to designate CDL Schools and SDLAs as "essential services." CDL Schools and SDLAs must remain open (subject to COVID-19 safety protocols) in order to train, test, and license new commercial drivers, who will continue responding to our national crisis.<sup>1</sup>

22 states have closed SDLAs. 28 SDLAs remain operational, but with limited service offerings (limited locations, limited hours, appointment only, etc.). Already, industries that rely on CDL drivers, have begun to note the adverse impact on their ability to source new drivers while at the same time facing increased shipping volume demands. Moreover, given that the duration of the pandemic is unknown, it is all the more important that action be taken immediately to maintain the supply chain's necessary resource: trained and licensed CDL drivers. Therefore, we urge you to take immediate action to clarify that CDL Schools and SDLAs are "essential services."

### **Additional State Action Needed**

As you know, interstate commercial drivers are able to drive throughout the country. Therefore,

<sup>1</sup> See U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY (CISA), *Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response*, March 19, 2020 available at: <https://www.cisa.gov/publication/guidance-essential-critical-infrastructure-workforce> (recognizing that "employees supporting or enabling transportation functions" and "[w]orkers who support necessary credentialing, vetting and licensing operations for transportation workers," are essential workers).

individual state decisions to close SDLAs are impacting our entire nation's ability to train, test, and license drivers. We offer the following ideas for additional action as a means of ensuring that all states do their part to aid our national need for truck drivers while also ensuring adherence to COVID-19 safety protocols:

- Open designated SDLA locations with limited hours so students may obtain their CDL permits;
- Establish a temporary online CDL permit test;
- Allow SDLA employees to administer the CLP test to students at the school's location;
- Allow out of state students to take CDL skills exams in your state; or
- Issue temporary authority to accept a state licensed CDL school certificate in lieu of a CLP if state SDLAs are closed.

Our nation desperately needs to continue training and testing new professional CDL drivers. We urge all Governors to take immediate actions to clarify CDL Schools and SDLAs as "essential services" and to consider implementing the above actions to maintain our ability to train and license new professional CDL drivers, while maintaining COVID-19 health safety protocols.

Sincerely,

### **Trade Associations**

Agribusiness Council of Indiana  
Agricultural and Food Transporters Conference  
Agricultural Retailers Association  
Alabama Trucking Association  
American Bus Association  
American Frozen Food Institute  
Commercial Vehicle Training Association  
Consumer Brands Association  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
International Food Distributors Association  
Kentucky Trucking Association  
MN Crop Production Retailers  
National Association of Publicly Funded Truck Driving Schools  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
National Pork Producers Council  
Nebraska Trucking Association  
Oklahoma Trucking Association  
The Fertilizer Institute  
Truck Renting and Leasing Association  
Truckload Carriers Association  
United Motorcoach Association  
Women in Trucking  
Wyoming Ag Business Association

## **Transportation/Logistics/Shippers**

Boyd Bros. Transport., Inc., Birmingham, AL  
C.H. Robinson, Eden Prairie, MN  
C.R. England, Salt Lake City, UT  
CFI, Joplin, MO  
Clean Harbors, Norwell, MA  
Covenant Transport, Chattanooga, TN  
CRST International, Cedar Rapids, IA  
D. M. Bowman, Inc., Williamsport, MD  
DOT Foods, Mt. Sterling, IL  
EPES Transport System, Greensboro, NC  
Exel, Westerville, OH  
Fox River Fiber, DePere, WI  
H. O. Wolding, Amherst, WI  
Hogan Transports, Inc., Bridgeton, MO  
Jelly Belly Candy Co., Fairfield, CA  
Karl's Transport, Antigua, WI  
Knight-Swift Transportation, Phoenix, AZ  
Kraft Heinz Company, Chicago, IL  
Level 2 Logistics/Estes Express, Richmond, VA  
LRC-Shawano Paper Mill, Shawano, WI  
LSB Industries, Oklahoma, OK  
MACtac, Scranton, PA  
Maverick Transportation, N. Little Rock, AR  
May Trucking Company, Salem, OR  
McElroy Truck Lines, Cuba, AL  
Melton Truck Lines, Tulsa, OK  
Merschman Seeds, West Point, IA  
Midwest Paper Group, Combined, WI  
MTR, Inc., Upper Marlboro, MD  
NTB Trucking, Wyoming, MI  
P&S Transportation, Elizabeth, NJ  
Paschall Truck Lines, Murray, KY  
Pilot Flying J, Knoxville, TN  
Pixelle Specialty Solutions, Spring Grove, PA  
Radiant Clipper, Woodbridge, IL  
Reinhart Food Service, Richmond, VA  
Reston Limo, Loudon County, VA  
Roadtex LTL/SLG, Bridgetown, NJ  
Roehl Transport, Marshfield, WI  
Sapp Brothers, Omaha, NE  
Schneider National, Green Bay, WI  
Schreiber Foods, Fullerton, CA  
Stevens Transport, Dallas, TX  
Supreme Trucking Group, Dublin, CA  
TA Petro Shopping Centers, Westlake, OH  
TMC Transportation, Des Moines, IA  
TransAm Trucking, Olathe, KS

Transland Trucking, Springfield, MO  
Transport America, Eagan, MN  
UPS, Atlanta, GA  
US Xpress, Chattanooga, TN  
Werner Enterprises, Omaha, NE  
Yara North America, Inc., Tampa, FL

### **CDL Schools**

160 Driving Academy, Evanston, IL  
Advanced Career Institute, Visalia, CA  
Affordable Truck Driver Training, Moulton, AL  
All State Career School, Essington, MD  
American Truck Schools, Redding, CA  
American Truck Training, Inc., Oklahoma City, OK  
Ancora Education, Augusta, TX  
Apex CDL Institute, Kansas City, KS  
ATDS Career Education, Elm Mott, TX  
Berks Technical Institute, Wyomissing, PA  
Black Wolf CDL Training Center, Bryan, TX  
Bluegrass CDL Academy, Winchester, KY  
Boyd Driving Academy, Birmingham, AL  
C1 Truck Driver Training, Indianapolis, IN  
California Truck Driving Academy, Santa Ana, CA  
Canandaigua Driving School, Farmington, NY  
Career Tech, LLC, Lakeland, FL  
CC Training, Morton, DE  
CDL Training and Consulting Services, Paducah, KY  
CDL Xpress Truck Driving School, Indianapolis, IN  
CDS Tractor Trailer Training, Woodford, VA  
Center for Employment Education, Anchorage, AK  
Coastal Truck Driving School, New Orleans, LA  
Commercial Driver Training, West Babylon, NY  
Commercial Vehicle Training Center, Watkins, CO  
Continental Truck Driver Training, Dallas, TX  
Delta Technical College, Hornlake, MS  
Diesel Driving Academy, Shreveport, LA  
Exel Driver Services, Henderson, CO  
Fayetteville Technical Community College, Fayetteville, NC  
Ferrari Driving School, Astoria, NY  
Future Truckers of America, Asheboro, NC  
Georgia Driving Academy, Conyers, GA  
Global Trucking Academy, Mansura, LA  
Great Lakes Truck Driving School, Columbia Station, OH  
Hamrick School, Medina, OH  
HDS Truck Driving Institute, Tucson, AZ  
Heavy Metal Truck Training, Eagan, MN  
Interstate Truck Driving School, S. St. Paul, MN  
J-Tech Institute, Jacksonville, FL

JTL Truck Driver Training, Omaha, NB  
Karl's Transport Commercial Driver CDL Training School, Antigo, WI  
KATLAW Truck Driving Schools, Austell, GA  
Lancaster County Career & Technology Center, Willow Street, PA  
Maverick Transportation, North Little Rock, AR  
Midwest Technical Institute - Springfield, MO,  
Millis Transfer, Cartersville, GA  
Mississippi Truck Driving School, L.L.C., Hickory Flat, MI  
MTC Truck Driver Training, Hazelwood, MO  
Napier Truck Driver Training, Hamilton, OH  
National Tractor Trailer School, Liverpool, NY  
NETTTS, Quincy, MA  
Northeast Technical Institute, Scarborough, ME Ohio Business College, Middletown, MO  
Pacific NW Professional Driving School, Tacoma, WA  
PIA Jump Start Programs, West Mifflin, PA  
Progressive Truck Driving School, Cicero, IL  
Roadmaster Drivers School, Tampa, FL  
Roehl Driver Training Center, Marshfield, WI  
Schneider National, Green Bay, WI  
Shelly Truck Driving School, York, PA  
Smith & Solomon, Bordentown, NJ  
Stevens Transport Truck Driving Schools, Dallas, TX  
Suburban Truck Driving Schools, Romulus, MI  
SunCoast Trucking Academy, Inc., Punta Gorda, FL  
Swift Driving Academy, Memphis, TN  
Taylor Truck Driving Schools, Burlington, WA  
Tennessee Truck Driving School, Louisville, TN  
TMC Transportation, Des Moines, IA  
Transtech, Newton, NC  
Truck America Training of KY., LLC, Shepherdsville, KY  
Truck Driver Institute, Christina, TN  
Truck Driving Academy, Rancho Cordova, CA  
United States Truck Driving School, Denver, CO  
United Truck Driving School, Murfreesboro, TN  
United Truck Driving School, San Diego, CA  
Western Pacific Truck School, Stockton, CA  
Western Truck School, West Sacramento, CA

### **Suppliers and Service Providers**

Advanced Training Systems, St. Petersburg, FL  
CDL Life, Shawnee, KS  
CDL Marketing, Royal Oak, MI  
Conversion Interactive Agency, Brentwood, TN  
Driver iQ, Tulsa, OK  
Fastport, Lowell, MA  
ie Links, Phoenix, AZ  
Instructional Technologies, Vancouver, WA  
Lancer Insurance Company, Long Beach, NY

Mike Byrnes & Associates, Corpus Christi, TX  
Paradigm Media Consultants, Fishers, IN  
Paramount Capital Group, Conshohocken, PA  
Partners Financial Services, Fenton, MO  
Randall-Reilly Publishing, Tuscaloosa, AL  
Tenstreet, LLC., Tulsa, OK  
TextAim, Gilbert, AZ  
Transportation Compliance Services USA, Biloxi, MI  
Virage Simulation - US Operations, Port Orange, FL  
WorkSTEPS, Houston, TX