

From: Miller, Sarah E.
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2010 12:59 PM
To: Smith, James M.; Stephens, Michael J.; Wilmarth, Fiona E.; Gelnett, Wanda B.; Cooper, Kathy
Subject: Fw: IRRC Website - New Message

2745

From: Independent Regulatory Review Commission
To: Help
Sent: Thu Feb 25 12:56:44 2010
Subject: IRRC Website - New Message



IRRC

Independent Regulatory Review Commission

RECEIVED
2010 FEB 25 PM 2:43
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

A new message has arrived from the IRRC Website

First Name: Nick

Last Name: Troutman

Company: Sen. Dave Argall

Email: ntROUTMAN@PASen.gov

Subject: IRRC No. 2745, Reg. No.18-414

Message:

Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman Independent Regulatory Review Commission 333 Market Street, 14th Floor Harrisburg, PA 17101 Re: Final-Form Version of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Proposed Rulemaking on Intrastate Motor Carrier Safety Requirements – IRRC No. 2745, Reg. No.18-414 Dear Chairman Coccodrilli: The above referenced final-form rulemaking was recently brought to my attention by the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. As a result of an “audit” of Pennsylvania’s state highway safety regulations by the Federal Motor Carrier Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has proposed to remove existing exemptions for drivers of implements of husbandry and farm trucks from Pennsylvania regulations. I appreciate the opportunity to comment. This proposed change has the potential to greatly affect the 45,000 farm families in the Commonwealth. For example: • No one under 18 years of age, including the farmer’s children, will be permitted to legally operate a farm tractor or truck if it is pulling another implement when the combined weight is over 17,000 pounds. • Any driver of a farm tractor or truck, if operating on a public road and towing another implement, will need to have medical certification and operators of farm trucks over 17,000 pounds will need the same certification, if operated more than 150 miles from the farm. • For vehicles meeting the 17,000 pound threshold, driver’s logs and employee recordkeeping will be required to document hours of operation, breaks and more. • Pre-and post-trip inspections must be conducted, maintenance documented and reports maintained and filed. While I recognize that farm vehicle safety is of the utmost importance, especially when these vehicles operate on public roads, I believe the current

proposal is excessive and in many cases only increases paperwork, and does not necessarily increase safety. I encourage you to consider the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau's comments carefully when determining your position on these regulations. Again, thank you for considering my thoughts on this matter. If I or my staff may provide any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office. Sincerely, David G. Argall State Senator 29th Senatorial District