

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 306

Expressing the sense of Congress in support of the freeze on longer combination vehicles and current Federal limitations on truck size and weight.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 2000

Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself, Mr. HORN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mrs. MORELLA) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress in support of the freeze on longer combination vehicles and current Federal limitations on truck size and weight.

Whereas section 127(d) of title 23, United States Code, prohibits expanded operation of long double and triple trailer trucks, otherwise known as longer combination vehicles;

Whereas Congress froze operations of longer combination vehicles in 1991 because of the public concern over the safe operation of these vehicles on certain highways and the excessive infrastructure damage they cause on highways not built for their use;

Whereas the United States Department of Transportation, in Draft Volume III of the Comprehensive Truck Size and Weight Study, released December 30, 1998, projected

that multitrailer combination trucks like longer combination vehicles could be expected to experience at least an 11 percent higher overall fatal crash rate than single trailer combination vehicles;

Whereas the Department of Transportation also found that longer combination vehicles are prone to rearward amplification (or swaying) and greater speed differentials while climbing or descending and need more time and distance in making lane changes;

Whereas section 127(a) of title 23, United States Code, contains provisions limiting the gross vehicle weight of commercial motor vehicles permitted on interstate highways in the United States;

Whereas United States Department of Transportation has recognized the need to dramatically reduce the number of truck-related highway fatalities; and

Whereas surveys of individuals in the United States demonstrate that an overwhelming majority of Americans oppose expanded use of longer combination vehicles and any increase in the length or weight of commercial trucks: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring),*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This resolution may be cited as “Safe Highways Res-
5 olution”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONTINUATION OF FREEZE.**

7 (a) LONGER COMBINATION VEHICLES.—Prohibitions
8 and restrictions on longer combination vehicles under sec-

1 tion 127(d) of title 23, United States Code, should not
2 be amended so as to weaken the current “freeze” on those
3 vehicles or result in any less restrictive prohibition or re-
4 striction on those vehicles.

5 (b) WEIGHT LIMITATION.—The prohibitions and re-
6 strictions contained in section 127(a) of title 23, United
7 States Code, should not be amended in any way so as to
8 permit operation of commercial motor vehicles with a
9 gross vehicle weight greater than currently allowed under
10 Federal law.

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