



NATIONAL STONE, SAND
& GRAVEL ASSOCIATION

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Mark Kelly
United States Senate
Washington D.C., 20510

The Honorable Cynthia Lummis
United States Senate
Washington D.C., 20510

The Honorable Mike Bost
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C., 20510

The Honorable Angie Craig
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C., 20510

Dear Senator Kelly, Senator Lummis, Congressman Bost & Congresswoman Craig,

On behalf of the 400 members of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (NSSGA), I am writing to urge your support for the Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act. This legislation will deliver more effective and safe means of commercial trucking, which is essential to our industry as we maintain our country's vast infrastructure.

NSSGA members consist of stone, sand and gravel producers; industrial sand suppliers; and the equipment manufacturers and service providers who support them. With upwards of 9,000 locations, the aggregates industry produces 2.5 billion tons of materials used annually in the United States. Aggregates are the building blocks of our modern society and are needed to construct and maintain roads, railways, bridges, tunnels, water supply, sewers, electrical grids and telecommunications.

NSSGA supports this legislation, as it will increase the desperately needed parking opportunities for our nation's truckers and attract more drivers to the stretched-thin industry. Our members are prepared to supply the needed construction materials for projects that expand parking, alleviate bottlenecks, improve safety and eliminate congestion on our roads and highways. If passed, this legislation will improve supply chains and keep our strong economy moving.

More than 72 percent of the nation's freight is carried by commercial trucks, and demand is projected to increase over the next decade, as we enter a period of economic growth closer to 2024. In the aggregates industry, we utilize large trucking fleets to move materials from production facilities to job sites. The



threat posed by the driver shortage stands to disrupt the continuity of the supply chain, hindering the ability to transport the necessary materials needed to build critical infrastructure.

According to a recent estimate, the trucking industry has a current shortage of over 77,000 drivers — a substantial deficit that is expected to nearly double by 2028. When anticipated driver retirement numbers are combined with expected capacity growth, the trucking industry must hire roughly 1.2 million new drivers over the next decade. The trucker shortage impacts our ability to move needed stone, sand and gravel to job sites, which delays construction projects and hampers infrastructure development. Federal lawmakers must prioritize the truck driving industry to attract and retain much-needed drivers by enacting the Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act.

The Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act will direct resources to where they are needed to address critical shortage of commercial vehicle parking and utilize funds to construct commercial parking adjacent to private commercial travel plazas or truck stops.

Aggregates producers nationwide seek certainty, as we work to supply the billions of tons of essential materials needed to improve our nation's infrastructure, including parking and safety improvements along our highways. We urge Congress to take the necessary steps in assisting drivers meet their needs while on the road by passing the Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act.

Thank you for your attention and thoughtful consideration of this important and timely legislation. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Johnson
President and CEO
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association

