



NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE®

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CHUCK CANTERBURY
NATIONAL PRESIDENT

JAMES O. PASCO, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

15 March 2019

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Samuel B. Graves, Jr.
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman and Representative Graves,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our opposition to H.R. 1698, the “Small Carrier Electronic Logging Device Exemption Act,” which would exempt companies with a fleet of 10 or fewer trucks from the Electronic Logging Device (ELD) rule.

The FOP views this as an important public safety issue with respect to our officers as well as the public we serve. In 2018, 50 officers lost their lives in traffic-related incidents—the second leading cause of line of duty deaths after firearms, which represents a 56% increase from 2017. Traffic and highway safety is of great importance to our members for this reason and we are always supportive of measures, like the ELD rule, that make traveling our nation’s roadways safer for officers and the general public.

According to the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration (FMCSA), 1,844 crashes will be avoided every year, saving 26 lives, as a result of the adoption and implementation of ELDs. With the ELDs rules in place, it is very difficult for truck drivers to violate Hours of Service rules without being detected. Studies have shown that drivers of trucks equipped with ELDs have higher rates of compliance with Hours of Service and lower crash rates. We find no compelling public safety reason to exempt more than 90% of the trucking industry from this simple and effective safety regulation.

It was Congress, after all, that directed the FMCSA to require *all* drivers currently required to record their driving time on paper logs to do so electronically the enactment of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) in 2012. The ELD mandate did not change the Hours of Service rules, it only made them easier to enforce and harder to evade. This has led to increased compliance and improved safety—why undo the progress we have made?

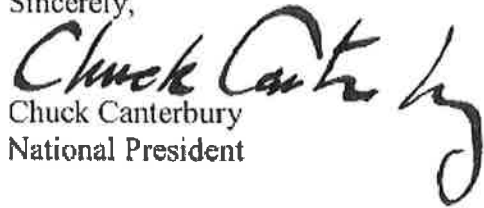
The FOP believes that the ELD rule makes our roadways safer and we urge the members of the Committee to reject H.R. 1698.

—BUILDING ON A PROUD TRADITION—



On behalf of the more than 345,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you for attention to this important public safety matter. If I can be of any additional assistance on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me or Executive Director Jim Pasco in my Washington office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chuck Canterbury". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "C" at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail that loops back under the name.

Chuck Canterbury
National President