

House Transportation, Housing & Local Government

04/10/2024 01:30 PM

SB24-100 Commercial Vehicle Highway Safety Measures

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Mark Kaiser Amend themselves	<p>The way SB24-100 is currently written looks more like a solution looking for a problem to solve than a real solution for anything. One only needs to look at the CDOT incident spreadsheet to realize that the data is misleading. The data needs to be corrected to truthfully show the real problems of Glenwood Canyon. Secondly, the data appears to be deliberately influencing public opinion in the negative against the trucking industry. And last but not least, being short almost 30 officers to enforce traffic laws only exacerbates all the problems in this area of I70. Until real "boots" are on the ground this legislation, whether passed as first presented or passed with recommendations, will not affect either the real or perceived problems.</p> <p>First is the expansion of the "must carry chains" requirements clause. Many of the trucks that would be affected do not travel the mountains at all, or it would cost millions of dollars for unnecessary equipment.</p> <p>Restricting CMVs from using the left lane for almost 150 miles would adversely affect safety, increase the cost of goods to and from the Western Slope, and further, the driver shortage in Colorado A study needs to be done to evaluate the benefits and costs of a left lane restriction.</p> <p>The fines for not carrying chains as required need to be at least doubled to encourage compliance. Additionally, drivers or companies that refuse to buy and use chains should also face fines.</p> <p>A chain assistance and Management program plus a greater outreach and education program needs to be instituted to educate both drivers and companies.</p> <p>Last but not least, in working to add chain-up locations, a study and plan should be included for overnight and emergency truck parking locations to be done to allow drivers to take mandated rest periods or safe parking to wait out storms.</p> <p>Mark Kaiser</p>

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