



NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

AARON D. KENNARD
Executive Director

December 12, 2013

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
United States Senate
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Begich
United States Senate
111 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Alexander and Begich:

I write on behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the more than 3,000 Sheriffs nationwide to express our opposition to your amendment, S.Amdt. 2312, to S. 1197, the *National Defense Authorization Act*. This amendment would require States to allow longer, double-trailer trucks on highways which will put drivers in danger and place an unnecessary burden on taxpayers.

The amendment would require States to increase the maximum allowable length of a double-trailer truck from 28.5 feet to 33 feet. These heavier trucks place greater strain on highways and require additional taxpayer funded upgrades to roads and bridges. Additionally, heavier trucks pose greater danger to drivers. Double-trailer trucks at the current 28.5-foot length maximum have a significantly higher fatal crash rate than single-trailer trucks. Increasing the allowable length of double-trailer trucks to 33 feet will only further increase the likelihood of fatal crashes.

Accordingly, the National Sheriffs' Association strongly opposes this amendment. It will put travelers in danger and pose additional and unnecessary costs to taxpayers. If you have any questions regarding our opposition, please feel free to contact NSA. We would welcome the opportunity to work with you on this issue.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Aaron D. Kennard".

Sheriff (ret.) Aaron D. Kennard
Executive Director