

MOTION OF THE COUNCIL OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Expressing the sense of Council regarding proposed commercial truck size or weight increases.

WHEREAS, Allegheny County Council is concerned with the welfare and safety of motorists on our extensive network of roads and bridges, as well as the quality and reliability of our infrastructure as well as construction costs; and

WHEREAS, every crash imposes human and economic costs as well as significant clean-up burden that require many hours of county and local personnel and leads to a loss in economic productivity by leading to long traffic delays; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny County has committed a substantial portion of its budget to the repair, replacement and upgrading of a network of over 550 bridges and 780 lane miles of road, and hope to keep costs to a minimum for taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the USDOT study from 2016 concluded that heavier trucks would add another \$1.1 to \$2.2 billion in annual repair of bridges (only taking into account federal and U.S. Highway bridges); and

WHEREAS, The USDOT study from 2016 concluded that longer trucks would add another \$1.2 to \$1.8 billion in annual repair of roads (only taking into account federal roads); and

WHEREAS, 39% of Pennsylvania's major roads are in poor or mediocre condition and cost Pennsylvania motorists an estimated \$4 billion per year in extra vehicle repairs and operating costs, according to the "The Road Information Project" (TRIP); and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania contains 15,749 bridges that are rated as in either "poor" or "fair" condition, or 69% percent of all bridges statewide, according to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); and

WHEREAS, government highway cost allocation studies show that increases in truck size and weight would exacerbate the existing underpayment of heavy trucks and increase their subsidization by municipalities, amounting to a new unfunded mandate; and

WHEREAS, 6,930 large truck crashes occurred in 2018 across the Commonwealth, resulting in 143 fatalities and 3,197 injuries, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA);

The Council of the County of Allegheny therefore hereby moves as follows:

Allegheny County Council hereby opposes any federal or state increases in truck size or weight at this time.

PRIMARY SPONSOR: COUNCIL MEMBER HALLAM

CO-SPONSORS: COUNCIL MEMBER PRIZIO

Read and approved in Council, this _____ day of _____, 2021,

Council Agenda No. _____

**Patrick Catena
President of Council**

Attest: _____
**Jared E. Barker, Chief Clerk
Allegheny County Council**