



VERMONT TRUCK & BUS ASSOCIATION, INC.

March 11, 2020

Legislative Issues 2020

I. Support Permit modernization and reform

1. Support S.339, DMV 'miscellaneous' bill, which allows DMV to move forward on electronic permitting for DMV permits, with ability to add municipal overweight permits to their portal in future

This bill is on the Senate Notice Calendar today

2. Remove permit requirement on eastern section of Route 4

Of the approx. 2,835 miles of state highways and class 1 town highways, 34 miles require an annual state permit to haul a 53' standard trailer at standard weight---Route 4 from the NH border to Route 100. Lack of the free, non-safety related state permit in the cab of your tractor trailer will cost \$362 or more in fines. 800 permits were issued in 2019 by DMV. Significant safety improvements have been done to this section of Route 4 in the last 20 years. Trucks are on Route 4 in any event, and this will not change.

Language to remove:

§ 1432. Length of vehicles

(c) Operation on U.S. Route 4. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, vehicles with a trailer or semitrailer which are longer than 68 feet but not longer than 75 feet may be operated with a single or multiple trip overlength permit issued at no cost by the Department of Motor Vehicles or, for a fee, by an entity authorized in subsection 1400(d) of this title on U.S. Route 4 from the New Hampshire state line to the junction of VT Route 100 south, provided the distance from the kingpin of the semitrailer to the center of the rearmost axle group is not greater than 41 feet.

II. Increase Numbers of CDL holders and Diesel Mechanics

1. Support Tech Center enrollment of mechanics and coordinate employment opportunities
2. Support Driver training programs through Dept of Labor and Federal changes to 'intrastate' limit on younger CDL holders

III. Support increased funding of road and bridge repair and maintenance wherever possible

1. Base budget pressures outpace average revenue growth
2. Increasing annual federal formula funds requires additional State match
 - Emerging risk of not being able to match all available Federal formula funds
 - FHWA funds increased by 6.6% annually over past five years
 - State funds increased by only 1.8% for past five years
 - Numerous FHWA projects are currently funded at 95/5. Deploying future funds on 80/20 projects will require as much as \$5.6M additional annual State match