

Congratulations to American Trucking Associations on its 75th anniversary. The trucking business is a very diverse industry that moves a variety of products ranging from food products to hazardous materials, from light and bulky freight to heavy and over-length freight — all requiring various types of equipment. For 75 years, ATA has had the challenge of representing the common interests of these businesses despite their differences. Even though we are dissimilar, we do find that most governmental issues have the same effects on all of us.

As ATA chairman, I am constantly amazed at how many different areas we have to monitor and how quickly and abundantly bills show up in the halls of Congress that can hurt our industry. There are so many complicated issues that there is no way individual companies can keep up with them, let alone protect themselves from the consequences. However, if we are united as an industry, we can accomplish great things. As an industry, we have tremendous grass-roots political clout because all politicians have truckers as constituents.

Tomorrow's issues of highway funding, energy policy, safety regulations, climate regulations, labor regulations, tax policies and international trade will prove to be even more challenging than the issues of the past, but I am quite confident that a united industry will stand up to these challenges in the future. So let's stay united on the important issues facing our industry and enjoy the success of the next 75 years!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Ky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.