



# AMERICAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATIONS

950 N. Glebe Road ★ Suite 210 ★ Arlington, VA ★ 22203-4181  
www.truckline.com



**Bill Graves**  
President and Chief Executive Officer

September 8, 2009

Rose A. McMurray  
Acting Deputy Administrator  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration  
U.S. Dept. of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.W.  
Suite W60-300  
Washington, DC 20590     *by mail and on-line at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)*

Dear Acting Deputy Administrator McMurray:

The American Trucking Associations (ATA) hereby petitions the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration for an extension of time for public comment on FMCSA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking No. FMCSA-2009-0231 (the NPRM), published September 3, 2009, at 74 *Federal Register*, pages 45583-97.

The American Trucking Associations of Arlington, Virginia, is a national federation of all types and sizes of motor carriers, as well as allied industries, individual-member councils, affiliated conferences of specialized carriers, and fifty affiliated state trucking associations, representing altogether some 37,000 motor carrier members.

Our petition is based on the reasoning contained in the similar petition filed to the docket of the NPRM by the five industry members of the Board of Directors of the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement (UCRA); that is:

That the very short time period the NPRM allows for comment (only fifteen days) will effectively prevent many interested motor carriers and other businesses from presenting their views to FMCSA on what is a significant tax increase in a very difficult economic time;

That Presidential Executive Order 12866 certainly encourages and may require FMCSA to provide additional time for comment, up to sixty days;

That FMCSA should not be concerned over the statutory time limit for a rulemaking to set fees under the UCRA program (*see* 49 U.S. Code 14504a(d)(7)(B)), since that limit has, in this instance, and despite what is contained in the NPRM to the contrary, already expired; and

**Good stuff.**

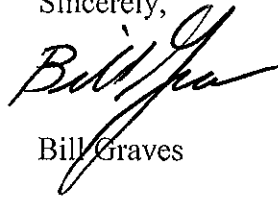


Rose A. McMurray  
September 8, 2009  
Page 2

That a reasonable extended period of time for public comment will assist FMCSA in setting the fees by providing the agency with more balanced input industry and government entities alike, and large and small motor carrier operations in particular.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Graves", written in a cursive style.

Bill Graves

cc: Kevin Neyland, Acting Admin., OIRA

by fax and email