

Bost Bill Provides Funding For Safe Truck Parking

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL) reintroduced legislation today that would provide U.S. Department of Transportation funding on a competitive basis for the construction of new parking spaces for large commercial trucks. Bost was joined in introducing the Truck Parking Safety Improvement Action by U.S. Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN) and U.S. Sens. Mark Kelly (D-AZ) and Cynthia Lummis (R-WY).

“I grew up in a family trucking business,” said Bost. “I understand how difficult, and oftentimes dangerous, it can be when America’s truckers are forced to push that extra mile in search of a safe place to park. By expanding access to parking options for truckers, we are making our roads safer for all commuters and ensuring that goods and

supplies are shipped to market in the most efficient way possible. This is a matter of public safety; and I'm committed to do all I can to drive this legislation over the finish line."

"The lack of safe and accessible truck parking places an enormous and costly burden on our nation's truck drivers as they work to deliver for the American people," said Chris Spear, President of American Trucking Associations. "Given the chronic nature of this issue and its national scope, it is imperative Congress takes action to provide dedicated funding to expand commercial truck parking capacity. We thank Representatives Bost and Craig for their leadership on this vital piece of legislation, which will strengthen our supply chain and improve highway safety for all motorists,"

"Most folks probably don't realize that 70% of American freight is transported by truck, yet incredibly there is only 1 parking spot for every 11 trucks on the road," said Todd Spencer, President of the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association. "When truck drivers don't have a designated place to park, they end up parking on the side of the road, near exit ramps, or elsewhere. This isn't safe for the driver and it's not safe for others on the road. Senator Lummis, Senator Kelly, Representative Bost, and Representative Craig have heard from small business truckers across America and are leading the charge in Congress to improve road safety through expanded truck parking."

"As an organization committed to promoting truck safety, we support for the Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act," said Harry Adler, Principal of the Institute for Safer Trucking. "If we are going to improve safety throughout the trucking industry, it is essential to prioritize the safety and well-being of commercial truck drivers. By providing safe and accessible truck parking facilities, we can help ensure that drivers are well rested."

Background:

Truckers are legally obligated to comply with 'Hours of Service' Regulations from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. It is estimated that truckers spend approximately one hour per day looking for safe parking, which cuts down on time driving to their destination. According to a study commissioned by the Federal Highway Administration, 98% of truck drivers say they regularly experience difficulty finding safe parking, and are forced to park on an exit ramp, on the side of an interstate, or other unsafe areas. The Truck Parking Safety Improvement Act will allocate funds to create thousands of safe parking spots for trucks and make necessary improvements to existing truck parking areas.