



NMTA 511

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Dial 511 for Travelers Information in Your State

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The 2007 Session of the Nevada Legislature demonstrated just how important it is for the trucking industry to be involved in the political process. The proposal of a weight distance tax at a rate of 15 cents a mile would have cost the trucking industry in Nevada well over \$1 billion in less than a decade.

In the next issue of the NMTA 511 we will provide you with the voting records of Nevada Legislators during the 2007 Legislative Session and how they voted on those issues important to the trucking industry and you business. We will also be rating legislators on their accessibility and assistance on trucking issues.

While the 2008 Elections are still more than a year away, we need to start preparing, by educating our employees, customers, friends and families, about those individuals who supported us and who did not.

Below you find an article from Stephanie Herrera, Director of the Nevada Prosperity Project, who will tell you how to involve your company in the political process.

Paul J. Enos
CEO, Nevada Motor Transport Association

INTRODUCING THE NEVADA PROSPERITY PROJECT

By Stephanie Herrera
Director, Nevada Prosperity Project

As many of you know the last legislative session was not only unfriendly to business, it was downright nasty to the trucking industry. Due to the efforts of the Nevada Motor Transport Association combined with reasonable legislators and a governor committed to keeping a campaign promise of not approving any tax initiatives, the trucking industry avoided a weight/distance tax. However, this does not mean you are

**Managing Editor, Ryan Jerz
Nevada Motor Transport Association
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out of the woods. In fact, business as a whole is constantly on the chopping block in one way or another.

Enter the Nevada Prosperity Project. Created by BIPAC (the Business and Industry Political Action Committee in Washington DC), P2 was designed to fill a significant gap in the business community. Research shows that those members of the private industry who vote count their employer among their most trusted source of information for voting purposes. The problem is that many employers do not have the time to research issues to present to employees, or simply do not know how to discuss issues without appearing to dictate how those individuals should vote. The Nevada Prosperity Project consists of a website that contains the voting records of all representatives from the President of the United States down to your local representatives. We know that voting records do not lie, and armed with this information, voters can easily educate themselves on the issues, leaders and potential leaders, and elect business friendly candidates.

BIPAC's goal and the Nevada Prosperity Project's goal are very simple: elect business friendly legislators to public office who are going to maintain a business friendly environment throughout the United States. In addition to voting records employees can access voter registration forms if they are not currently registered to vote, download absentee ballots and easily send emails and letters to their representatives when the occasion calls for action.

In the coming months you are going to hear a lot about P2, how you can get involved and how we can galvanize the trucking industry to ensure what almost happened in the '07 legislature does not happen at all. I had the privilege of attending a BIPAC Summit of the States a few weeks ago, and I'm excited to report that the P2 project is experiencing phenomenal success across the country. States are holding their legislators accountable, educating the business community about who is friendly to business and who is not, and empowering voters to take action not only during an election season, but during the "off season" as well. Nevada has already become a state with a significant cost of living. If we allow the Legislature to destroy the success of our business community what do we have left?

I will be contacting every one of you to discuss how you can have your own Prosperity Project website and how you can educate your workforce. It takes very little effort to make sure your circle of influence is motivated and ready to take action. We have a small window of opportunity over the next 16 months to effect positive change in the state of Nevada, and I look forward to working with every single one of you.

NEVADA STATE TRUCK DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Nevada State Truck Driving Council, headed by Paula Cason and staff, was held this year at the Reno Stead Airport in Reno,
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NV on June 9th. The participation was at a high of 102, which is quite high for our State.

The 2007 Nevada Truck Driving Championships were a pioneer in judging with bubble scanning, which is done by computer. In the past we judged manually. The bubble scanning made the competition results available much sooner than normal.

The results of the competitions will be sent on to the National Truck Driving Championships in Minneapolis, Minnesota, which will be held August 21st - 25th.

The 2007 Truck Driving Championship results are as follows:

Package Van

State Only (the Nationals don't recognize the package van category at this time.)

- 1st Marc Shiff Fed-Ex Ground
- 2nd Noah Mullenix Fed-Ex Ground
- 3rd Nicholas Lynch Fed-Ex Ground

Straight Truck

- 1st Randy Johnson Fed-Ex Freight
- 2nd Troy Blake Fed-Ex Ground
- 3rd Sergio Romero Fed-Ex Ground

3 Axle Class

- 1st Dennis Van Beveren UPS Freight
- 2nd Brandon Hardy Con-Way
- 3rd Don Manual Con-Way

4 Axle Class

- 1st John Bryant Fed-Ex Freight
- 2nd Tony Haase Con-Way
- 3rd Jose Perez Con-Way

5 Axle Class

- 1st Craig Popeney Fed-Ex Freight
- 2nd Patrick Nerger Fed-Ex Express

- 3rd Erik Henry Fed-Ex Ground

5 Axle Twin Class

- 1st Robert Workman Fed-Ex Freight
- 2nd Stephen Gilbert UPS Freight
- 3rd Richard Mejia Con-Way

Congratulations to all the winners, and to all our safe drivers ~

Remember - If you are a leader in safety, you will have safe followers!!



NDOT IDLING REDUCTION LECTURES

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Southern Nevada will be presenting a free public lecture on the “Benefits of Idling Reduction.” Pat Mohn of NDOT will give the lectures at the RTC building, 600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada on the following dates:

July 25, 2007	10:00 AM	Room 108
August 29, 2007	10:00 AM	Room 108
November 14, 2007	10:00 AM	Room 108

This lecture will outline the cost and environmental benefits of reducing the idling time of diesel powered motor vehicles and equipment, including fuel conservation and increased engine life. Space is limited to 50

attendees per lecture, so please pre-register. Contact Pat Mohn of NDOT at (775) 888-7693, or pmohn@dot.state.nv.us.

CONGRESS LOOKING AT HOT FUEL ISSUE

Congressional Democrats said steps need to be taken to ensure that U.S. consumers are not getting shortchanged by “hot” fuel, but representatives of the fuel retailing industry said adjusting sales by temperature was unnecessary and would hurt small businesses.

The hot fuel issue has spawned a contentious debate since a series of news reports highlighted the expansion of fuel at higher temperatures last year. Typically, fuel is sold at the wholesale level at 60 degrees Fahrenheit, or the equivalent of 60 degrees, pending the expansion or contraction of the liquid because of temperature. However, fuel sold by retailers is generally not adjusted for possible changes, and can contain less energy than the same amount of fuel at a lower temperature.

A coalition called the Partnership for Uniform Marketing Practices, which includes NATSO – formerly the National Association of Truck Stop Operators – American Trucking Associations and a number of oil industry groups, wrote to House Oversight and Government Reform Committee’s panel on domestic policy asking the members “to suspend further congressional action, pending the outcome of the National Academy of Sciences study; consideration of the issue by the National Conference of Weights and Measures; and a new study being requested by the state of California on the matter.”

Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) noted his staff had conducted a study of hot fuel that showed the phenomenon could cost gasoline consumers \$1.5 billion.

TRUCKS CAN HELP KEEP THE ROADS SAFER

FOR ALL DRIVERS

Car drivers cause three out of every four accidents between cars and tractor-trailers, said Ray Kuntz, chairman of the American Trucking Associations at a June 15 event to promote safety.

But truck drivers can also contribute to the problem. On o-called "Dead Man's Curve" - a steeply banked ramp connecting interstates 290 and 495 - truck drivers often get into trouble on their own. Once or twice a year, state police said, a tractor-trailer rolls over on the hairpin curve, snarling traffic for hours.

The Mass. Highway Department says it is contemplating widening the curve - a fix that will likely cost \$50 million, but truck driver Phil Gould seemed to have a simpler solution.

"You observe the speed limit, that's all," he said. "It's not rocket science, it's a sign. What does the sign say? Do what the sign says."

Last month, one truck driver from Mississippi failed to do that and tipped his rig, spilling plastic bottles all over the road and shutting the ramp down for seven hours.

Even the safest driver has blind spots, Gould told the small crowd that included Lt. Gov. Timothy Murray. Gould and other truck drivers illustrated the big rig's blind spots, and showed ways drivers can stay out of them.

NEW DRIVING FINES FOR CALIFORNIA - EFFECTIVE 7-1-07

- Carpool lane - 1st time \$1068.50 starting 7/1/07 (The \$271 posted on the highway is old). Don't do it again because 2nd time is going to be double. 3rd time triple, and 4th time license suspended.
- Incorrect lane change - \$380. Don't cross the lane on solid lines or

intersections.

- Block intersection - \$485
- Driving on the shoulder - \$450
- Cell phone use in the construction zone. - Double fine as of 7/1/07. Cell phone use must be "hands free" while driving.
- Passengers over 18 not in their seatbelts - both passengers and drivers get tickets.
- Speeders can only drive 3 miles above the limit.
- DUI = JAIL (stays on your driving record for 10 years)
- As of 7/1/07 cell phone use must be "hands free" while driving. Ticket is \$285. They will be looking for this like crazy - easy money for police department

****CALIFORNIA NEW FINES (not Nevada) as of 7/1/07.*****

ROADCHECK 2007

From June 5-7, 2007, Nevada Highway Patrol (NHP), participated in the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) annual international Roadcheck. During the event, NHP conducted North American Standard Inspections on eastbound Interstate 80, west of Reno at Boomtown.

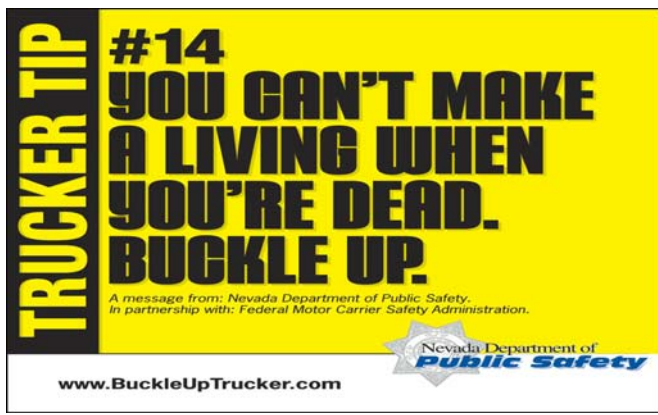
This year the focus was on comprehensive vehicle and driver inspections. Troopers also handed out educational materials on the importance of seat belt compliance, and to encourage an increase in seat belt use. Even though commercial driver seat belt usage increased from 48% to 59%, the rate is still far too low. Especially when compared to the 82% usage rate among automobile drivers.

NHP performed a total of 565 inspections, selected from the thousands of commercial vehicles that traveled through the check sites. The troopers found 60 out of service vehicle violations. Among the out of service vehicle violations, approximately 66% were due to brake adjustments or the brake system. The 38 out of service driver

violations were due almost entirely to driver noncompliance with hours of service regulations.

100 CVSA decals were issued to power units, and another 43 decals were issued to trailers. As a special note, this was the 20th year of the Roadcheck program performing commercial vehicle safety checks on North American highways.

For daily updates on upcoming events, training classes, etc. visit our website at www.nmta.com



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