



National Black Chamber of Commerce®

1350 Connecticut Avenue NW Suite 405, Washington DC 20036

202-466-6888 202-466-4918fax www.nationalbcc.org info@nationalbcc.org

July 11, 2011

TO: MEMBERS OF HOUSE TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:

RE: SAFE AND EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2011 (HR 763)

Dear Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Member:

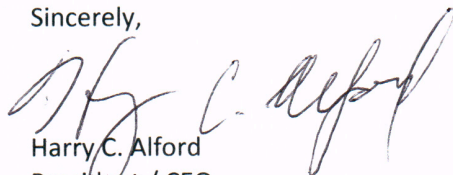
On behalf of the National Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc., the largest African American business association in the world, I urge you to support of HR 763, the Safe and Efficient Transportation Act recently introduced by Congressman Mike Michaud (D-ME) and Congresswoman Jean Schmidt (R-OH).

This legislation, if passed, would by increase gross vehicle weights on interstate highways from 80,000 to 97,000 pounds for vehicles that are properly equipped with a sixth axle, thus increasing the productivity of the trucks on the road by filling them to capacity. This would only apply to states that "opt-in" to permit this increase, and users would pay increased fees for bridge repair and maintenance.

Passage of this important bill would increase the business community's competitiveness by more closely aligning our truck weights on interstates with those in Mexico, Canada, much of the EU and the US. If enacted, the measure would lessen the environmental footprint associated with transporting these truckloads, resulting in lower carbon emissions into our environment and reduced demand for foreign oil.

In these tenuous economic times, businesses are looking for creative ways to do more with less. HR 763 would allow companies to do just that, without compromising safety. I applaud Congressman Michaud and Congresswoman Schmidt for their leadership and ask that you add your support to this bill and send it to the President's desk for signature.

Sincerely,


Harry C. Alford
President / CEO