



## AMERICAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATIONS

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**Chris Spear**  
President & Chief Executive Officer

November 13, 2019

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
U. S. Senator  
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
U.S. Senator  
709 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Moran and Baldwin:

On behalf of the American Trucking Associations (ATA), I write to express thanks and support for the introduction of the Promoting Women in Trucking Workforce Act. Your thoughtful and timely legislation brings important attention and focus to the advancement of female representation and participation in trucking.

The Promoting Women in Trucking Workforce Act rightly notes that although women currently make up 47 percent of the U.S. workforce, they make up less than 7 percent of truck drivers, and only a quarter of all transportation and warehousing jobs in trucking. Of 3.5 million truck drivers in 2018, only 234,234 of them were women. While the trucking industry has taken great strides over the last decade in increasing the female workforce, growing the number of women truck drivers by 68 percent since 2010, women remain underrepresented in the industry.

With an average salary of \$45,570<sup>1</sup>, and excellent benefits, such as paid leave, health insurance, and 401(k)s, trucking provides a stable, good-paying career to Americans, yet in 2018 the industry was short 60,000 drivers. Encouraging women to enter an industry that provides significant compensation and benefits packages is a win-win for improved gender parity and confronting the growing truck driver shortage. A further reason for encouraging greater female participation in the trucking industry is the fact that women have been shown to be safer commercial drivers and involved in less crashes, per recent studies.

Through the establishment of a Women of Trucking Advisory Board under the leadership of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, your legislation will bring greater attention to the recruitment, training, mentorship, and outreach to women in the trucking industry. This in turn will lead to increased female representation in trucking and greater industry diversity, while providing another tool to help the trucking industry confront and stem its growing driver shortage.

As priorities of both Presidents Obama and Trump, empowering women to seek rewarding careers enjoys broad bipartisan support, and this bill would help promote job opportunities for women in the trucking industry. Thank you for introducing the Promoting Women in Trucking Workforce Act, and we look forward to working with you to enact this much needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Chris Spear  
President & CEO  
American Trucking Associations

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/oes/2018/may/oes533032.htm>