



NATaT NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF TOWNS AND TOWNSHIPS

Advocacy Alert - Protect Our Roads

Protect Against Increased Truck Size and Weight Allowed on our Roads

Next week - Tuesday, June 5 and Thursday, June 7 - the Senate transportation appropriations subcommittee and full committee, respectively, will be considering the fiscal year 2019 spending bill for the US Department of Transportation. There will be two amendments offered to the spending bill that could impact our town and township roads:

1. Requires every state to allow longer double-trailer trucks that are 91 feet long, known as "Double 33s,"
2. Allows maximum truck weights to increase from 80,000 pounds to 91,000 pounds.

No such language was included in the House-passed spending bill.

Please call your US Senators and ask that they oppose these two amendments.

In addition to describing your local experience with heavier and longer trucks, please consider the following messages regarding safety and infrastructure:

SAFETY

- Double 33s are more dangerous because they take 22 feet longer to stop (USDOT).
- Double 33s are 91 feet long and would make passing and merging more difficult.
- 91,000-pound trucks have 47 percent higher crash rates in limited state testing (USDOT).
- Longer and heavier trucks have higher out-of-service violation rates, which means they are over three times more likely to crash (Insurance Institute for Highway Safety).

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Longer double-trailer trucks would mean \$1.1 billion in additional bridge costs, and heavier trucks would mean another \$1.1 billion in bridge costs (USDOT).
- Taxpayers would be stuck paying for the tremendous damage caused by heavier and longer trucks.

NATaT is working with the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks that has launched a new toll free number **1-855-350-5949**. Callers will first hear a brief overview of concerns about bigger, heavier trucks. You will enter your zip code and then connect to your Senators and House Representative(s). You only need to contact your Senate offices.

Thank you for making your concerns heard on Capitol Hill and helping us protect our roads and residents that travel those roads.