

BY REPRESENTATIVE ST. GERMAIN

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request members of the United States Congress to oppose any legislation

3 allowing an increase in truck weight and size.

4 WHEREAS, on February 17, 2011, House Resolution 763, the Safe Efficient

5 Transportation Act of 2011(hereinafter referred to as SETA) was introduced in the United

6 States House of Representatives in order to give any state the option to allow a vehicle

7 weighing up to 97,000 pounds access to interstate highways, provided owners equip trucks

8 with a sixth axle, the weight of any single axle does not exceed 20,000 pounds, the weight

9 of any tandem axle does not exceed 34,000 pounds, the weight of any group of three or more

10 axles does not exceed 51,000 pounds, and users agree to pay a supplemental user fee; and

11 WHEREAS, on February 18, 2011, the United States House of Representatives

12 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure referred SETA to its Subcommittee on

13 Highways and Transit; and

14 WHEREAS, on April 6, 2011, Senate Bill 747, identical to House Resolution 763,

15 was introduced and referred to the United States Senate Committee on Finance; and

16 WHEREAS, should either of these pieces of legislation be signed into law, our aging

17 highway system will be strained in an unprecedented manner, further financially burdening

18 states and endangering the motoring public; and

19 WHEREAS, the May 2000 Addendum to the 1997 Federal Highway Cost Allocation

20 Study, Final Report, United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway

1 Administration, reports that 80,000 pound single-trailer trucks only pay eighty percent of the
2 cost of the damage they cause; and

3 WHEREAS, the same study shows that increasing truck weights up to 97,000 pounds
4 would result in trucks only paying for about fifty percent of the damage they would do; and

5 WHEREAS, the same study reports that the federal government already subsidizes
6 heavy truck operations by almost two billion dollars every year; and

7 WHEREAS, allowing heavier and longer trucks to operate on interstate highways
8 would add new costs and increase the burden on taxpayers; and

9 WHEREAS, increasing the permissible truck size and weight on interstate highways
10 would require that many bridges in the state be replaced, strengthened, or posted, all of
11 which would impose additional costs and unfunded mandates on Louisiana's already
12 underfunded transportation infrastructure program and ultimately each citizen of Louisiana.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
14 urge and request members of the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit of the United
15 States House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the
16 members of the United States Senate Committee on Finance, and all other members of the
17 United States Congress to oppose any legislation allowing an increase in truck weight and
18 size.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

St. Germain

HCR No. 140

Urges and requests members of the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, and all other members of the U.S. Congress to oppose any legislation allowing an increase in truck weight and size.