

Heavier Trucks: Bad for Pennsylvania's Local Communities

Dear Members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly,

On behalf of local elected officials, law enforcement and first responders throughout the Commonwealth, we are writing to ask you to oppose any increase in the maximum allowable weight of trucks on our roads.

The January 28 collapse of the Fern Hollow Bridge in Pittsburgh underscores the work we have ahead of us in Pennsylvania to maintain our state and local bridge system. We have the third largest number of state owned bridges in the country, with over half over 50 years old. More than 3,100 of these bridges have been determined to be in "poor condition", the same rating assigned to the Fern Hollow Bridge. Heavy trucks place extra stress on these bridges requiring more extensive repairs and eventually replacement. Allowing even heavier trucks than are legal today would only make the current situation worse.

It is the state and local roadway network that connects people to jobs, schools and leisure. Unfortunately, much of local infrastructure is in disrepair, in part because local and rural roads and bridges are older and not built to the same standards as interstates. Many of us are unable to keep up with our current maintenance schedules and replacement costs because of budget constraints. We do not have the resources to cover the costs of the additional infrastructure damage that would be caused by heavier trucks.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's local communities and our residents, we ask that you oppose any legislation that would raise truck weights on our roads and bridges.

Sincerely,

Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association

Pennsylvania Municipal League

Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Association

Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs

Pennsylvania State Association of Township
Supervisors

Al Freed
Traffic Safety Manager
Abington Township

Anita Prizio
County Council
Allegheny County

Christian Leinbach
County Commissioner
Berks County

Michael Marciante
Borough Council
Bessemer Borough

Roger White
Chief of Police
Blair Township

Clinton Walters
Sheriff
Bradford County

Erik Grunzig
Chief of Police
Brecknock Township

Ross Swords
Mayor
Brownsville Borough

Diane Ellis-Marseglia
County Commissioner
Bucks County

Robert Harvie
County Commissioner
Bucks County

Michael Slupe
Sheriff
Butler County

John Hays
Chief of Police
Butler Township

Donald Robertson
Sheriff
Cambria County

Sean Shultz
Mayor
Carlisle Borough

Fredda Maddox
Sheriff
Chester County

Robert Hirst
Borough Council
Christiana Borough

Matthew Pacifico
Mayor
City of Altoona

John Bey
Chief of Police
City of Lancaster

Janet Diaz
City Council
City of Lancaster

Robin Getz
Director of Public Works
City of Lebanon

Kendra Brooks
City Council
City of Philadelphia

Mark Squilla
City Council
City of Philadelphia

Anthony Coghil
City Council
City of Pittsburgh

Deb Gross
City Council
City of Pittsburgh

Corey O'Connor
City Council
City of Pittsburgh

Jeffrey Waltman
City Council President
City of Reading

Josh Brosious
Mayor
City of Sunbury

Shawn Zerfoss
Sheriff
Clarion County

Kerry Stover
Sheriff
Clinton County

Timothy Chamberlain
Sheriff
Columbia County

Janet Nolf
Treasurer
Confluence Borough

David Powers
Sheriff
Crawford County

Brian Feeney
Sergeant
Dallas Township

George Hartwick
County Commissioner
Dauphin County

Mike Pries
County Commissioner
Dauphin County

Chad Saylor
County Commissioner
Dauphin County

Chuck Steininger
County Commissioner
Dauphin County

Jerry Sanders
Sheriff
Delaware County

Michael Hession
Borough Manager
Denver Borough

Todd Caltagarone
Sheriff
Elk County

Chris Campanelli
Sheriff
Erie County

Jason Loper
Chief of Police
Fairview Township

James Custer
Sheriff
Fayette County

Daniel Hunsinger
Chief of Police
Forty Fort Borough

John Flannery
County Commissioner
Franklin County

Robert Ziobrowski
County Commissioner
Franklin County

Rob Glenny
Chief of Police
Gettysburg Borough

Dean Osborne
Chief of Police
Grove City Borough

Albert Walker
Chief of Police
Hanover Township

Cathy Rape
Mayor
Harmony Borough

Greg Such
Borough Council President
Harmony Borough

Christopher Engelhart
Chief of Police
Hilltown Township

Jeffrey Leonard
Sheriff
Huntingdon County

Robert Fyock
Sheriff
Indiana County

Gerald Williams
Chief of Police
Jackson Township

Carl Gotwald, Sr.
Sheriff
Jefferson County

William Holdsworth
Chief of Police
Kennett Square Borough

Craig Summers
Chief of Police
Kutztown Borough

Chris Leppler
Sheriff
Lancaster County

Dan Vogler
County Commissioner
Lawrence County

Jo Ellen Litz
County Commissioner
Lebanon County

Daniel Raible
Chief of Police
Leetsdale Borough

Joseph Hanna
Sheriff
Lehigh County

Rebecca Coleman
Borough Council
Lemoyne Borough

Cindy Foster
Borough Manager
Lemoyne Borough

Kasha Griva
Borough Council
Lemoyne Borough

R. Brian Skelton
Chief of Police
Limerick Township

Thomas Barndt
Chief of Police
Lower Saucon Township

Dave Arnold
Chief of Police
Lower Windsor Township

R. Mark Lusk
Sheriff
Lycoming County

Todd Graeff
Chief of Police
Manor Township

Sharon Bradnick
Township Secretary
Marietta Borough

Ryan Hawk
Chief of Police
McCandless Township

Bruce Rosa
Sheriff
Mercer County

Stephen Kingsborough
Director of Public Safety
Middlesex Township

Joseph Bartorilla
Chief of Police
Middletown Township

Jim Drayer
Sheriff
Mifflin County

Trevor Finn
County Commissioner
Montour County

Dan Hartman
County Commissioner
Montour County

Clair Heath
Sheriff
Montour County

Ken Holdren
Chairman of Board of Commissioners
Montour County

Bing Cimino
Mayor
Mount Carmel Borough

Patience Barnes
Borough Council
Mount Pleasant Borough

James Dorman
Chief of Police
Muncy Borough

Lance Colondo
Mayor
Nazareth Borough

Christopher Crook
Borough Council
Nazareth Borough

Jessica Teel
Borough Council
Nazareth Borough

William Leighty
Chief of Police
New Holland Borough

Tim Gatehouse
Sergeant
New Sewickley Township

Steven Hess
Supervisor
North Centre Township

Ronald LeVan
Supervisor
North Centre Township

Emily Holmes
Supervisor
North Strabane Township

Lamont McClure
County Executive
Northampton County

Tara Zrinski
County Council
Northampton County

Daniel Berard
Mayor
Northumberland Borough

Janice Bowman
Borough Manager
Northumberland Borough

Paul Ruane
Borough Council President
Northumberland Borough

Robert Wolfe
Sheriff
Northumberland County

Brian Wolfe
Chief of Police
Parkesburg Borough

Robin Zmoda
Borough Manager
Pen Argly Borough

Guy Hettinger
Chief of Police
Penn Township

Charles Bailey
Corporal (Retired)
Pennsylvania State Police

Chris Wagner
Chief of Police
Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department

Chad Adams
Lieutenant & Commercial Vehicle Inspector
Pulaski Township

Richard Ficco
Chief of Police
Richland Township

John Domanski
Borough Council President
Riverside Borough

Kerry Parkes
Chief of Police
Riverside Borough

Joseph Groody
Sheriff
Schuylkill County

Lou Costanzo
Fire Chief
Sharpsburg Borough

Karen Pilarski
Borough Council
Sharpsburg Borough

Bruce Hockersmith
Borough Council President
Shippensburg Borough

Lois Turr
Borough Secretary
Smithfield Township

Adam Ewig
County Commissioner
Snyder County

Joe Kantz
County Commissioner
Snyder County

John Zechman
Sheriff
Snyder County

Dominic Bellizie
Chief of Police
Solebury Township

Colleen Dawson
County Commissioner
Somerset County

Pamela Tokar-Ickes
County Commissioner
Somerset County

Jeff Kuntz
Chief of Police
South Buffalo Township

William Richendrfer
Chief of Police
South Centre Township

George Swartz
Chief of Police
Spring Garden Township

Joe Daly
Chief of Police
Springfield Township

John Gardner
Chief of Police
State College Borough

Matt Abell
Borough Council
Stroudsburg Borough

Erica Bradley-McCabe
Borough Council
Stroudsburg Borough

Tarah Probst
Mayor
Stroudsburg Borough

Robert Montgomery
Sheriff
Sullivan County

Don Umberger
Township Manager
Town of South Annville

Michael Beaty
Superintendent
Tredyffrin Township

Cheryl Lockard
Supervisor
Upper Moreland Township

Eric Foy
Sheriff
Venango County

Charles Fetzeck
Chief Deputy
Warren County

Scott Slagle
Chief of Police
Washington Township

Chris Rosler
Sheriff
Wayne County

Jeff Kimes
Chief of Police
West Brandywine Township

Jay Megonnell
Supervisor
West Hanover Township

Gloria Zimmerman
Supervisor
West Hanover Township

Dee Dee McGuire
Township Manager
West Lampeter Township

Thomas Brady
Supervisor
West Providence Township

Brandon Chamberlain
Supervisor
West Providence Township

Christopher Ward
Chief of Police
Whitemarsh Township

Royce Engler
Chief of Police
Wright Township

Richard Keuerleber
Sheriff
York County