No. 93 An Order to Promote Deregulation in the Trucking Industry

Bill Lee

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EXECUTIVE ORDER
BY THE GOVERNOR
No. 93

AN ORDER TO PROMOTE DEREGULATION IN THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, this Administration recognizes that the trucking industry is a key part of Tennessee’s economic growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the economy is currently facing supply chain disruptions affecting the movement of consumer and industrial goods throughout the state and nationally; and

WHEREAS, in Tennessee in particular, the supply chain disruptions are exacerbated by a shortage of drivers with commercial driver licenses ("CDL") because of barriers to entry and overregulation, and it is a goal of this Administration to expand the CDL workforce; and

WHEREAS, many aspects of the trucking industry are federally regulated, and I have joined the governors of 14 other states in a joint initiative urging the federal government to suspend industry regulations that are inhibiting the return to business as usual throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, in addition to federal regulatory changes, there appear to be state statutes, rules, and policies that unduly burden commercial drivers and that may be amended without jeopardizing public safety on Tennessee’s roadways; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that executive branch departments, other state entities, private businesses, and legislators work together to determine which state regulations merit amendment.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and the laws of Tennessee, do hereby declare that my Administration is committed to reducing overburdensome regulations on the trucking industry and commercial drivers in Tennessee. Accordingly, I hereby direct and order that:

1. The Department of Safety and Homeland Security shall identify state statutes and rules that affect the trucking industry and commercial drivers and that are
candidates for amendment during the upcoming legislative session. Also, the Department of Safety and Homeland Security shall identify internal policies that are candidates for amendment in the normal course of business. The Department shall propose to the Governor a plan for amending the statutes, rules, and policies that are identified. In order to achieve these goals, the Department shall consult with other state entities and private stakeholders.

2. The Department of Safety and Homeland Security and the Department of Military shall work together to promote CDL training and certification opportunities for servicemen and servicewomen.

3. The Department of Safety and Homeland Security and the Department of Correction shall work together to promote CDL training and certification opportunities for individuals who are preparing to reenter society or who have left incarceration.

4. The Department of Safety and Homeland Security and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall work together to promote CDL training and employment opportunities among Tennessee’s workforce.

5. The Department of Safety and Homeland Security shall coordinate with third parties—such as the Tennessee Board of Regents, the Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology, and private businesses—to increase the number of training and testing opportunities for CDL applicants and licensees.

6. Third-party training and testing programs are encouraged to expand the types of CDL applicants and licensees who can participate in their programs. For example, companies are encouraged to extend training and testing access beyond their own employees, and local school districts are encouraged to extend school bus training and testing access to residents of any school district.

7. All executive branch departments, agencies, boards and commissions, and any other divisions of state government shall fully cooperate with the Department of Safety and Homeland Security and other departments of the executive branch in carrying out this Order and shall provide staff support and any other assistance as reasonably requested.

[signature page follows]
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature and caused the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed this 22nd day of November, 2021.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE