

**Statement of Michael J. Riley  
President**

MICHAEL J. RILEY  
PRESIDENT

**Motor Transport Association of Connecticut  
Before  
The Joint Committee on Transportation  
March 12, 2012**

Re: Raised Bill No. 5460 AN ACT CONCERNING WRECKERS  
AND TOW TRUCKS.

I am Michael J. Riley, President of Motor Transport Association of Connecticut (MTAC), a statewide trade association, which represents around 800 companies that operate commercial motor vehicles in and through the state of Connecticut. Our membership includes freight haulers, movers of household goods, construction companies, distributors, tank truck operators and hundreds of companies that use trucks in their business and firms that provide goods and services to truck owners.

**MTAC SUPPORTS THIS BILL**

MTAC supports this bill which was requested by our friends in the towing and recovery Association. This is a reasonable bill that deals with the circumstance where a loaded truck must be removed from a location for reasons of safety. Currently, before a tow truck can clear an accident or breakdown involving a large truck, the truck must sometimes be off-loaded so as to decrease the weight of the combination of the tow truck and disable vehicle. Or, the tow trucker may be required to obtain individual over dimension permits before the truck can be moved. This creates unnecessary delays and the extension of what could be very dangerous circumstances.

This bill would allow the Commissioner of Transportation to issue an annual "wrecker towing or transporting emergency permit". The permit must be issued in accordance with any limitations as to highway or bridge use or maximum rate of speed, and not exceed seventy five miles. There would be an annual fee of \$125 for a wrecker with a weight rating of 26,000 or less and \$250 for a wrecker with a weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds.

We agree that the bill should be effective upon passage.

