



Towing & Recovery Professionals of Connecticut

Testimony on Senate Bill 481, An Act Concerning the Development of an Enhanced Accident Response Plan

Transportation Committee Public Hearing

February 11, 2015

Good morning Senator Maynard, Representative Guerrero, Senator Boucher, Representative O'Dea and the distinguished members of the Transportation Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with testimony on proposed **Senate Bill 481, An Act Concerning the Development of an Enhanced Accident Response Plan**. My name is Lee Telke and I am the Executive Director of the Towing & Recovery Professionals of Connecticut (TRPC). Tim Vibert is with me, he is the President of TRPC. TRPC is composed of nearly 200 towing professionals who are licensed dealers and repairers. We are small business owners who are responsible for clearing accidents or disabled vehicles, and complete recovery operations so that our state's highways may be reopened in a timely fashion.

TRPC supports SB 481 which seeks to develop and implement a coordinated enhanced accident response plan designed to efficiently alleviate traffic congestion caused by accidents on Connecticut's major highways.

Everyday in all types of weather towing professionals make our citizens safer by clearing accidents and disabled vehicles from our state's roadways. In addition, programs that permit and encourage quick clearance of accidents, open our highways to commerce and prevent secondary accidents. For over 10-years TRPC has participated and worked with the Capitol Region Council of Governments on traffic incident management and quick clearance issues.

TRPC is asking to be a part of the committee that would develop the accident response plan, we want to be active participate in this effort. We have the tools, technology, equipment and expertise to serve as a key component of this committee. We support traffic incident management and recognize the importance of opening the highways quickly, preventing secondary accidents, preventing impacts to municipal roads and returning commerce in a timely fashion. Our members have the first hand knowledge and routinely coordinating the accident scene with the incident commander to ensure that all parties are aware of the progress. We work with the DOT, DEEP and law enforcement in the cleanup efforts and in traffic routing so vehicles can be recovered and we provide the safest work environment possible.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. We would be glad to answer any questions.