



The Difference is Service®

February 20, 2015

The Honorable Andrew Maynard
State Senator
Connecticut Senate District 18
Legislative Office Building, Room 2300
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

The Honorable Antonio Guerrero
State Representative
Connecticut Assembly District 29
Legislative Office Building, Room 2301
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

RE: RBN 6817

Dear Senator Maynard and Representative Guerrero:

I am submitting these comments to you relating to Raised Bill Number 6817, which legislation concerns the removal of vehicles blocking lanes of travel on Connecticut roads. Great West Casualty Company is the insurer of the largest number of commercial truck lines transporting interstate freight in the United States. Trucks of our customers pick up and deliver freight every day in your state and the flow of commerce is of vital importance to you, your citizens, our customers, and our company.

We consider ourselves as partners with your law enforcement personnel in keeping your roads both safe and open. We want your law enforcement to have the freedom to clear roads in the most expeditious and safe manner without fear of being personally held responsible. Thus, the first two sentences of the proposed new legislation are appropriate and acceptable.

Our concern is with the third and last sentence which holds the wrecker service harmless from damage they cause to a motor carrier, its cargo, or the surrounding the area. The wrecker service is conducting a business paid for by the vehicle owner and its insurance company, and the wrecker service must be accountable and responsible for conducting the assigned clearance service safely, carefully, and reasonable. It is our experience that wrecker fees are increasing significantly, and if that wrecker industry seeks to enhance its income and at the same time eliminate its responsibility, the state, the public, and other businesses are not being fairly served. Nor are the law enforcement profession and personnel who will be drawn into the subsequent disputes and claims where wrecker services have no incentive to be safe, responsible, and accountable.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our concerns and views. I can be reached directly at (402) 430-8804 or at d.parker@gwccnet.com should you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

GREAT WEST CASUALTY COMPANY

David Parker
Senior Legal Counsel

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