

# LEGISLATIVE CONFERINCE

FEBRUARY 12-16 | WASHINGTON HILTON | WASHINGTON, D.C.



# LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



# Agriculture and Rural Affairs Steering Committee Business Meeting

Saturday, February 12, 2022

9:00am – 12:00pm EST





# LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



#### **NACo Agriculture and Rural Affairs Agenda**

- 9:00 AM Call to Order and Welcome
  - Hon. Craig Pedersen, Supervisor, Kings County, Calif.
- 9:15 AM Guest Speakers
  - Ms. Liz Archuleta, Director of External and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture
  - Hon. Xochitl Torres-Small, Undersecretary for Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture
  - Mr. Jon Samson, Executive Director, Agriculture and Food Transporters Conference of the American Trucking Association
  - Mr. Ryan Yates, Managing Director, Public Policy, American Farm Bureau
- 10:45 AM Policy Resolutions
  - Proposed Interim Resolutions
  - Emergency Resolutions
- 12:00 PM Meeting Concludes







#### Welcome and Introductions

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#### **NACo Agriculture and Rural Affairs Leadership**

Vice Chair: Hon. Alex Barnett, Judge, Harrison County, Ky.

Vice Chair: Hon. Julie Ehemann, Commissioner, Shelby County, Ohio

Vice Chair: Hon. Bob Fox, Commissioner, Renville County, Minn.

Vice Chair: Mr. Gene Harper, County Administrator, Marion County, S.C.

Vice Chair: Hon. Melissa McKinlay, Commissioner, Palm Beach County, Fla.

Vice Chair: Hon. Luis Sanchez, Commissioner, Midland County, Texas

Vice Chair: Hon. Jim Schmidt, Commissioner, Lincoln County, S.D.







# **Guest Speakers**



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#### Ms. Liz Archuleta

Director of External and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Agriculture







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#### Hon. Xochitl Torres Small

Undersecretary for Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture







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#### Mr. Jon Samson

Executive Director, Agriculture and Food Transporters Conference of the American Trucking Association







# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES 2022 LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Jon Samson

Vice President, Conferences

Agricultural and Food Transporters Conference

American Trucking Associations

Contact: JSamson@trucking.org



### **OVERVIEW**

Supply Chain Issues

#### **Driver Shortage**

- What's being done
- What's hindering the effort

Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIF)





#### SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES

Port Congestion

Warehouse/storage capacity (Oakland)

Lack of Chassis

Containers being shipped back empty

**OSRA** 

**Driver Shortage** 



## OCEAN SHIPPING REFORM ACT

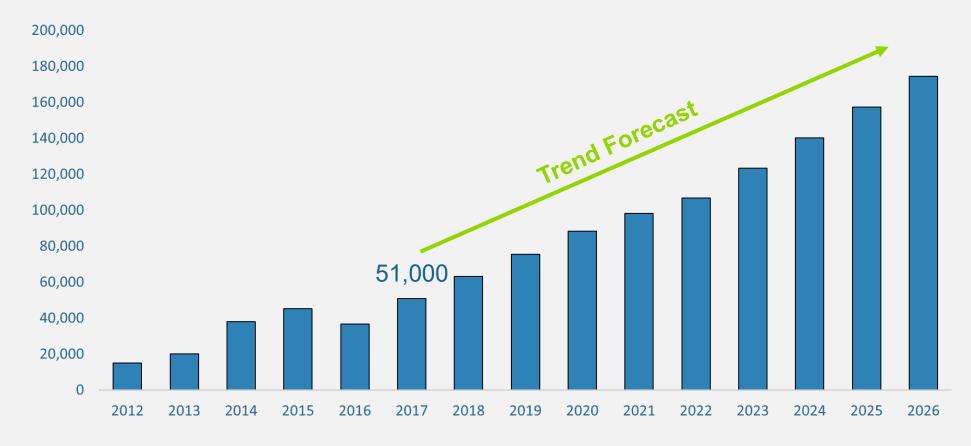
Updates the Shipping Act to reflect today's maritime marketplace and end abusive practices by foreign-owned ocean carriers against American shippers and truckers

Ensure that American exports are loaded on ships for foreign markets

Stops excessive detention and demurrage charges



## DRIVER SHORTAGE



Source: ATA's Truck Driver Shortage Analysis 2017



#### DRIVER SHORTAGE

#### Regulatory

- FMCSA pilot project (18-20yr military drivers)
- Not a large pool, but discussion has begun
- Minimize roadblocks for former military

#### Legislative

DRIVE SAFE Act – pilot project passed in BIF

#### Industry

- Increase in \$\$
- More flexible schedules



#### DRIVER SHORTAGE: DRIVERS

Aging workforce

Insurance costs

**COVID** vaccine mandates

- Federal contractors (currently stayed)
- Business over 100 employees (Supreme court ruling)
- Cross boarder mandate

Alternative Career paths

21+ interstate age threshold



#### ROADS AND BRIDGES

- •The bill provides \$110 billion to repair the nation's aging highways, bridges and roads.
- •According to the White House, 173,000 total miles or nearly 280,000 kilometers of America's highways and major roads and 45,000 bridges are in poor condition.
- •The almost \$40 billion for bridges is the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the national highway system, according to the Biden administration.



#### HIGHWAYS

- •\$351 billion for highways over five years from the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) and General Fund (\$307 billion or 90% provided as formula apportionments to states.)
- •\$12 billion for FMCSA and NHTSA safety programs. This is a 38% increase in highway elements from the Highway Trust Fund over funding levels in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act).



# NACO/INDUSTRY RELATIONS

- •Ensuring everyone is on the same page (Federal, state, local)
- •Dissemenation of information, both up and down the communication chain
- •Foster coalitions both at the government and industry levels
  - (government agencies, their representatives and industry partners)



# QUESTIONS?





## **CONTACT INFO**

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#### Mr. Ryan Yates

Managing Director, Public Policy, American Farm Bureau







# Policy Resolutions & Voting Procedures NACo Tech Support: 202-765-1538





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