



January 13, 2022

*Via Email*

The Honorable Dan Griffey  
Representative – 35<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Washington State Legislature

Dear Representative Griffey:

We write to you in support of HB 1657, legislation you introduced that would provide a tax incentive to the private sector to construct new commercial truck parking spaces. We appreciate your leadership on an issue that has plagued the trucking industry for decades.

The lack of safe available truck parking is a national crisis. In many parts of the country, truck drivers often have no choice but to park in locations that jeopardize their safety and the safety of the motoring public. These problems are compounded in areas that deal with inclement weather, such as along I-90 near the City of North Bend when Snoqualmie Pass is closed – though there is not enough truck parking in North Bend even in the best weather conditions.

While truck stops provide roughly 90% of all truck parking capacity, it is unrealistic to expect they will ever solve this problem on their own. In some cases, local ordinances prevent the construction or expansion of truck stops where they are needed most and sometimes it simply does not make economic sense to add new capacity. In other words, we need to consider new approaches which is why we support HB 1657.

That said, we would like to propose one relatively minor change to the legislation. As drafted, the bill defines minimum dimension standards for commercial truck parking spaces at 54 feet long and 11 feet wide. Unfortunately, the majority of long-haul tractor-trailers (i.e. the vehicles that need parking the most) exceed those dimensions. If the goal is to provide new capacity for this segment of trucking, we would suggest more practical minimum dimensions of 70 feet long and 12 feet wide.

Again, we appreciate your efforts and your consideration of our recommended change. Please contact us directly at [sheri@watrucking.org](mailto:sheri@watrucking.org) or [mike\\_matousek@ooida.com](mailto:mike_matousek@ooida.com) should you have any questions or require additional information.

Respectfully,

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Mike Matousek  
Director of State Legislative Affairs  
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Senior Vice President, Federation Relations & Industry Affairs  
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Cc: Members of the Washington State Legislature