



January 13, 2022

*Via Email*

The Honorable Mike Sells  
Representative – 38<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Washington State Legislature

Dear Representative Sells:

We write to you in support of HB 1706, legislation you introduced that would give truck drivers more access to restrooms at retail establishments and port facilities throughout the state. We appreciate your interest and leadership on this important issue.

The general public will never truly understand what it is like to not be able to use the restroom when nature calls out on the road, but this is a daily challenge for truck drivers across the country. When you are driving a tractor-trailer that is 70+ feet long, it can be especially difficult to find a place to park and use the restroom, and this includes locations that truck drivers deliver to and pick up from. The least we can do for the men and women that literally keep our economy moving and deliver the goods we all depend on is provide them with more access to restrooms and running water.

HB 1706 does two things:

1. It would require retail establishments, with some exceptions, to let truck drivers delivering goods to the establishment use the restroom during normal business hours if it can be done safely and securely; and
2. It would require ports to provide enough restroom facilities for drivers in terminal areas, which includes the use of fixed and portable toilets.

Equally as important, both provisions include meaningful – yet relatively minor – enforcement mechanisms which would hopefully result in broad compliance with a minimal impact on retail establishments and port facilities. While we are not always keen on government mandates, we do not think this effort fits in that category because it addresses a basic human need that every person on this planet has to deal with on a regular basis.

Again, thank you for your leadership on this issue. We appreciate your consideration of our views and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you in more detail at your convenience. 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 need additional information.

Respectfully,

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