



AMERICAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATIONS

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November 8, 2005

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

As the House of Representatives prepares to consider the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the American Trucking Associations (ATA) would like to voice its support for specific energy related provisions included in the House Resources Committee reconciliation package as reported, and ask for their inclusion in the final package for consideration before the full House.

An uninterrupted fuel supply is essential to meeting the nation's transportation needs. ATA strongly supports efforts that will increase national energy self-sufficiency and reduce vulnerability to future energy disruptions. Therefore, the motor carrier industry supports government efforts to promote exploration and development of domestic oil and natural gas reserves. This includes drilling in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) in an environmentally sensitive manner.

The American trucking industry, which hauls nearly 70 percent of all freight tonnage in the United States, requires a reliable source of energy. For an industry that will consume \$85 billion worth of diesel fuel this year, \$23 billion more than in 2004, ANWR and offshore exploration are viewed as critical components of a viable long term comprehensive national energy plan.

As a part of this long term strategy, ATA has also called for the expansion of U.S. refining capacity and the establishment of a single national diesel fuel standard.

Due to the importance of these energy issues any votes relating to these provisions will be scored as key votes for the 109th Congress by the American Trucking Associations. Please do not hesitate in contacting us with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your support of the trucking industry.

Sincerely,

Bill Graves
President & CEO

