Dear [Insert Name Here],

I wanted to alert you to a growing problem and threat to the trucking industry and seek your assistance on behalf of motor carriers, CDL trainers and the communities they serve. A growing number of states have closed licensing facilities and CDL training schools or are planning to take those actions.

***CRITICAL TO MAINTAIN CLP/CDL TRAINING, TESTING AND LICENSING***

In our view, the two most important things a state can do right now are:

(1) keep CDL schools open (with restrictions) and

(2) continue commercial learner’s permit (CLP) testing.

Even if states shut down state facilities, we feel that there are other means to safely maintain skills tests (third party testing). However, if a state prohibits a person from CLP testing, then we will not produce more truck drivers. This is counter to our national interest as it is critical to keep delivering medical supplies, food, and other goods.

We believe that reasonable alternatives exist rather than shutting down schools and state driver’s license agencies. Furthermore, we believe there are ways to ensure we have a pipeline of drivers and protect public safety. However, to do so, we feel that all Governors need to designate CDL schools and SDLA CLP/CDL testing as “essential services” in any emergency declaration. In the event your Governor has already issued an emergency declaration, we would ask that you appeal to them to amend that declaration in the national interest.

**CDL TRAINING SCHOOLS WILL ADHERE TO COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

CDL schools are able to teach students while also adhering with COVID-19 safety protocols such temperature-taking, sanitization and social-distancing. Healthy instructors and healthy students must be able to sit together in clean trucks to continue to receive training and to continue to test for their CDL.

A reasonable alternative to ensure public safety is to:

* Limit class sizes to no more than 10 people;
* Maintain social distancing when training; and
* Have school take the temperature of their students to ensure only healthy students are training.

Lastly, as you may know, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has already waived the Hours of Service requirements for trucks carrying needed supplies. I anticipate the FMCSA will grant more waivers pertaining to CLP and CDL licensure timetables.

Thank you for your consideration on these important matters.

[Name]

[Title]

[School]