

# TUPPER HARVESTING

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5 February 2013

Re: Commercial Driving License (CDL)

To: Honorable Kansas Legislature

We wish to bring the following points to your attention for resolution.

- The Commercial Driving License – referred to as the CDL – has gotten to be a problem because of the administration of the test which is becoming a road block to potential workers. Each year we find that the test has been added a new wrinkle to make it more difficult, yet serves no useful purpose. There is no reason that the requirements need to be added to as the new requirements do not contribute to the safety or quality of workers. Thus far the added twists have made for a shortage of drivers here in the USA. I would be happy to give you some input on this when you need it. Book work, which is the focus of the tests, does not get our countries goods to market nor make us competitors in the world.
- There are too few qualified people in the testing department that are qualified to do the driving test after the applicant passes the written part. It currently takes weeks to get the license even though the driver has all the qualifications and experience necessary to safely operate the truck. In the past year a requirement of a two week waiting period after passing the written test has been instituted. In our business we have to pay the person wages that they are not able to produce for us while they wait to get clearance to drive. We suggest that there is an urgent need for more driving test examiners to properly **serve the public**, which should be the goal of all government. It is our sincere hope that this governing body will provide more examiners and reduce the load of burdensome requirements on the existing examiners so they can be more productive.

The CDL requirement for our business has become an unnecessary burden as more and more regulation is added each year upon the applicant. During the first years of the CDL it was mainly a matter of coming to the testing station and bringing some form of identification, then taking the written tests and soon after passing them the applicant was allowed to take a driving test. In the past the harvesters including myself have trained thousands of truck drivers to operate a semi-truck safely on the road and in the field. Now it seems as we are treated as criminals and third rate citizens by a fast growing tyranny of government departments.

C. Forrest Tupper , Owner, Tupper Harvesting

House Agriculture & Natural  
Resources Committee

Date 2-06-2013

Attachment # 3