

# When it Comes to Truck Weight Reform, **Safety** is **Priority Number One.**

## That's Why We Support **The Safe and Efficient Transportation Act.**

### **The Safe and Efficient Transportation Act**

Allows state DOTs to selectively set interstate weight limits of up to 97,000 pounds for trucks equipped with a sixth axle. The bill does not affect truck size. Under SETA, shippers of heavier cargo could more fully fill existing 53' rigs.

### **SETA is a proven way to minimize truckloads and safely accommodate economic growth.**

- U.S. DOT and Transportation Research Board studies both determined that 97,000-pound, six-axle trucks maintain nearly the same braking and handling capabilities as 80,000-pound, five-axle vehicles.
- The biggest single factor in the number of vehicle/tractor-trailer accidents is vehicle miles traveled (VMTs). SETA would allow shippers to safely consolidate freight and minimize both truckloads and VMTs.
- The UK raised its gross vehicle weight limit to 97,000 pounds for six-axle vehicles in 2001. Since then, truck-related fatalities have declined by 35 percent. More freight has been shipped, while vehicle miles traveled to deliver each ton of freight has declined.
- A 2009 Wisconsin DOT study found that if a law like SETA had been in place in 2006, it would have prevented 90 truck-related accidents in the state that year.
- This year, Maine and Vermont implemented pilot projects giving heavier, six-axle trucks full access to their interstate highways. Law enforcement officials, motorists and truckers all agree that the change has already made roads noticeably safer and more efficient.

