



The Caltrux 5th Wheel

WEEKLY NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION



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CTA Member and US Congressman Doug LaMalfa Dies

US Congressman Doug LaMalfa, who has represented California's District 1 for more than a decade, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday. He was 65.

A longtime CTA member, Congressman LaMalfa was a friend to both trucking and agriculture in the state as a fourth-generation rice farmer who heavily advocated for his rural constituents.

He was elected to the California State Assembly and State Senate before being elected to the U.S. House in 2012.

[Transport Topics](#) has published a look back on [LaMalfa's work](#) in the service of our industry.

DMV Delays Cancelling CDLs for 60 Days

The **California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)** announced late last month that the agency has **extended the cancellation date for approximately 17,000 nondomiciled CDLs by an additional 60 days, from January 6 to March 6.**

CDL holders who received a letter that their CDL would be cancelled after January 5 will receive another letter informing them of the extension.



The **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)** has not responded to DMV officially about potential consequences even though Sec Duffy denounced the decision and tweeted that **he would cut the \$158 million in federal funding.**

The situation remains fluid and CTA will notify members of any changes as information becomes available.

What You Can Do Now

Your residency/ citizenship status	Your next step	Will I be charged an additional fee?
If you do not have permanent residency or U.S. citizenship:	Apply for a noncommercial driver's license by the date on your letter by visiting a DMV office.	The fee will be waived with a copy of your letter.
If you have permanent residency or U.S. citizenship:	Apply for a commercial driver's license by the date on your letter by visiting a DMV office.	The fee will be waived with a copy of your letter.
If you are a driver domiciled in Mexico or Canada, and you do not participate in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program:	Apply for a noncommercial driver's license by the date on your letter by visiting a DMV office.	The fee will be waived with a copy of your letter.

For DMV field office visits, **make an appointment** and **complete an online application** prior to your appointment.

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to **Nick hiappe** at nchiappe@caltrux.org.



Happy New Year, Here's Some New Laws

Nearly 800 new state laws were passed here in California last year and hit the books as of the new year. Most aren't specifically relevant to trucking at large, but a handful are notable.

Here's a list of the ones the **California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)** suggests you need to be aware of.

School Zone Speed Limit — [AB 382 \(Berman\)](#)

Lowers the school zone speed limit from 25 miles per hour to 20 miles per hour beginning January 1, 2031, to help reduce speeding and save lives.

“Slow Down, Move Over” — [AB 390 \(Wilson\)](#)

Expands the requirement that a driver approaching a stationary vehicle slow down and move over to include any stationary vehicles, including marked highway maintenance vehicles and those displaying flashing hazard lights or another warning device.

Automated Traffic Enforcement System Programs — [SB 720 \(Ashby\)](#)

Allows local governments to use an alternative automated camera program to enforce red light violations. Specifies that violations recorded by an automated traffic enforcement system are subject only to civil penalties.

License Plate Obstruction or Alteration — [AB 1085 \(Stefani\)](#)

Makes it an infraction with a fine of \$1,000 to manufacture in California a product or device that obscures, or is intended to obscure or interfere with the visual or electronic reading of a license plate, addressing the use of illegal license plate covers that enable toll evasion and other criminal activity.

Autonomous Vehicle Marker Lamps — [SB 480 \(Archuleta\)](#)

Allows an autonomous vehicle (AV) to be equipped with automated driving system (ADS) marker lamps. The lamps notify other drivers, pedestrians and law enforcement when an AV's ADS is activated.

“DMV” on Website Addresses — [AB 1272 \(Dixon\)](#)

Bans businesses that hold occupational licenses issued by the DMV from using “Department of Motor Vehicles” or “DMV” in their internet domain names. The goal is to ensure customers are not misled when seeking to do business with the real DMV.

Duplicate Driver’s License for Change of Address — [SB 506 \(Cmte on Transportation\)](#)

Allows a person to request a duplicate driver’s license (DL) from the DMV after they change their address. Current law limits duplicate licenses to cases where the license is lost, destroyed, mutilated, or if a new true full name is required.

If you're a glutton for punishment (or just like this type of thing), [CalMatters.org](#) has a great resource on ALL the laws newly in effect [here](#).

CTA's Virtual Policy Committee Meetings Are Next Week

CTA welcomes you to participate in our Winter Executive and Policy Committee meetings **held virtually via Zoom on January 14 and 15**. Join us for impactful discussions about our Association and hear updates on this year's legislative session and top industry issues.



Below is a breakdown of what you can expect from each meeting:

- The **Kingpin Committee** will discuss the upcoming 2026 election, CTA's Call on Washington and a preview of CTA's grassroots advocacy efforts in 2026.
- The **Highway Policy Committee** will discuss pertinent issues related to truck route mapping by local jurisdictions, Surface Transportation Reauthorization, and the potential removal of the I - 580 truck route ban. We'll also preview the LA 2028 Olympic freight planning process and the 2026 legislative session.
- The **Safety, Security, & HR Policy Committee** will discuss FMCSA's Interim Final Rule on Non-domiciled CDLs and the English Language Proficiency requirements. The committee will also discuss marijuana reclassification, AB 5, and a preview of the 2026 legislative session.
- The **Environmental Policy Committee** will discuss future CARB rulemaking concepts, TRU and CTC developments, and close with a 2026 legislative preview.

Participants can view the schedule for the upcoming meetings on [CTA's website](#), and are welcome to register for one, some of, or all of the committee meetings.

Click the [link here](#) to register. We hope to see you all there!



AMC26: LA28 Panel Announced

We're two weeks away from CTA's **72nd Annual Membership Conference (AMC26)** and if you're planning to attend, **registration ends Monday, January 12**. (But admission will still be available at the door.)

Over AMC26's content-packed three-days - **January 21 to 23** - participate in informative sessions by day and relax among the extensive amenities by evening in

and around the **Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa**.

We've added details for our Olympics 2028 panel session and so much more! [Click here](#) for the schedule!

[Visit Monterey Plaza Rooms](#) to reserve lodging online at our host hotel.

[Visit the AMC26 page](#) for registration and schedule details.

ATRI Extends Deadline for Insurance Cost Survey

ATRI has extended its deadline for motor carriers to participate in benchmarking research on rising insurance costs and strategies for managing risk. **Carriers now have until Friday, January 23 to submit their data.**



ATRI is expanding on its prior research to better understand and assess industry-wide trends in the ongoing adoption and effectiveness of risk-reducing strategies. All participating carriers will receive a customized report that compares their fleet's cost of risk to an anonymized peer group.

Carriers can complete the survey two ways:

[Click here for PDF form](#)

[Click here for online form](#)

All data is kept completely confidential for analysis in aggregate form only, and ATRI will sign non-disclosure agreements as desired.



CVSS26 Postponed, New Date to be Announced

California's biennial road safety conference, the **Commercial Vehicle Safety Summit (CVSS)**, has been postponed to later in 2026 due to state budget cuts to the CHP.

CTA is in the process of working with other partners and members to host a rescheduled safety summit later this year. Keep an eye out for an announcement with more details in the coming weeks.

An advertisement for BAC Community Bank Equipment Loans. The top half features the text "EQUIPMENT LOANS" in large, bold, white letters against a background of a white semi-truck pulling a green trailer with a large cylindrical tank. A yellow sign on the truck reads "OVERSIZE LOAD". Below the image, the phone numbers "(209) 944-1516 | (925) 308-7545" are listed. At the bottom, the BAC Community Bank logo is displayed in a red box.

An advertisement for Crossroads Equipment Lease & Finance. The top half features the text "We're with you for the long HAUL" in white and yellow letters against a blue background of a road winding through a landscape. Below the text, a hand is shown holding a small white semi-truck with a crown on its roof. At the bottom, the Crossroads logo and the text "crossroads Equipment Lease & Finance" are displayed.



TUFSOB: Calling All Scholars

The **TUFSOB** (Truckers United Fraternity Super Offspring of the Boss) scholarship program provides financial support towards furthering the educational goals of trucking's next generation and the industry's future leaders.

Created by CTA members, TUFSOB was created to raise funds and award grants to trucking's next generation.

More than three decades later, the program has provided in excess of \$400,000 in scholarships to over 500 deserving individuals.

TUFSOB scholarship awards go to high school graduates entering college, as well as those continuing their college education. The TUFSOB program also supports those that wish to go to trade schools, as well as adults wishing to attend college. Anyone who supports the trucking industry is considered, as long as they are sponsored by a CTA-member company.

Click below for the nomination form.

[2026 TUFSOB Application](#)

EVENTS

Preparing for the 2028 LA Olympic Games

Right now planners are creating a seamless operational backbone for one of the world's largest events, ensuring everything arrives, operates, and departs efficiently and sustainably across Los Angeles.

Find out how from special guest speakers:

Emerald Vela, Senior Regional Planner, SCAG

Jonathan Raspa, Senior Planner, SCAG

Marlon Regisford, Deputy District Director, Caltrans District 7



72nd Annual Membership Conference

“Driving the economy, steering the future”



72ND ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CONFERENCE

JAN 21-23, 2026
Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa

Visit caltrux.org/amc to register!



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GREG DUBUQUE

LIBERTY LINEHAUL WEST
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HELP DESK

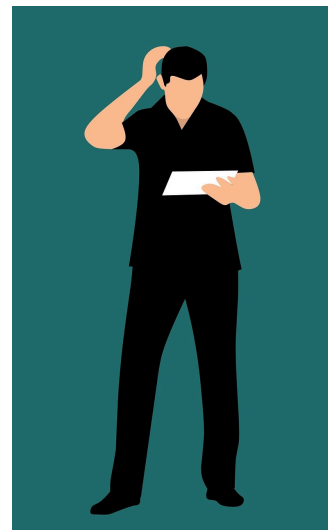
Compliance Confusion? Help Desk Has Your Solutions!

Remember to use the "Help Desk Online Contact Form" when you have a compliance or regulatory question on an issue.

The CTA Help Desk Online Contact Form is an exclusive member benefit designed to help with assisting various questions including:

- Driver qualification rules
- Drug testing questions
- Federal and California motor carrier safety regulations
- Log book/Hours-of-service regulations
- Vehicle load & securement rules
- Environmental regulations
- Hazardous materials regulations

Visit www.caltrux.org/compliance-help-desk/, or email helpdesk@caltrux.org.



Please be sure to include as much detail and information as possible. CTA's Government Affairs team will do their best to get back to you in timely manner.

Contact the Help Desk

DRIVER SAFETY EDUCATION

Brush Up on Safety Issues With TREDs

CTA is partnered with UC San Diego's [Transportation Research and Education for Driving Safety Center \(TREDs\)](#) to prevent crash-related morbidity and mortality by improving safe driving behaviors.

TREDs offers two courses aimed at preventing commercial motor vehicle-involved crashes from distracted and substance-impaired driving. They partner with the CTA to make courses available to the commercial motor vehicle industry.

Courses are approximately 60-minutes in length and available in both English and Spanish.



Courses focus on distraction related to the use of cell phones and electronic devices and...

Scope of the problem
Risk & consequences
Rules & regulations
Distracted, fatigued & drowsy driving
Work zone safety



Courses focus on substances most commonly reported to the FMCSA Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse and...

Scope of the problem
Contributing factors
Risks & consequences
Laws & testing procedures
Strategies to drive-drug free

Learn More

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Upcoming events can be accessed via CTA's Events Calendar](#)

MEMBER EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS & SERVICES



CIRCLE CLUB SPONSOR

Circle Club Sponsor companies have shown a special commitment to CTA members and the trucking industry.

We encourage our members to take advantage of these special offers and support these affiliated businesses.

[Click here to view CTA Circle Club Sponsor companies and their promotions.](#)

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[Contact Levi Ochotorena for more information and a CTA Member-exclusive price quote.](#)



The Caltrux Magazine Bookshelf: Digital Back Issues

For decades **Caltrux Magazine** has informed and entertained our members with news and features regarding the transport business, our legislative challenges and wins, and in-depth focus on the movers and shakers of California trucking.

The [Caltrux Bookshelf](#) uses a digital flipbook format to display these magazine issues in high quality, complete with articles and advertisements - identical to what you already receive in the mail.