

RESOLUTION NO. 34 OF 2015

Moved by: Wanda R. D. Williams

A Resolution opposing any increase in truck size or weight.

WHEREAS, Council of the City of Harrisburg is concerned with the welfare of motorists, and the cost, quality and reliability of our infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the trucking industry is an important part of the nation's economy and safely sized and weighted trucks are vital to truck drivers to conduct their essential work in a safe and responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, there is proposed federal legislation to increase the weight and size of large trucks that would be traversing interstate highways in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, larger trucks would further endanger motorists and the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) concluded that multi-trailer trucks have an 11-percent higher fatal crash rate than single-trailer trucks; and

WHEREAS, allowing heavier or longer trucks would threaten the safety of the traveling public because heavier and longer trucks would be more difficult to control, increase wear and tear on equipment, and increase crash severity; and

WHEREAS, more than half the bridges on the National Highway System are over 40 years old and nearly 25 percent are rated as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has 5,050 bridges that are rated as structurally deficient and 4,388 that are rated as functionally obsolete as of 2014, according to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); and

WHEREAS, it would cost \$121 billion to repair current structurally deficient bridges nationwide, according to USDOT; and

WHEREAS, over 60 percent of Pennsylvania's roadways are in poor or fair condition and today's heavy truck operations accelerate the deterioration of road surfaces and bridges but only repay approximately 80 percent of the damage they cause; and

WHEREAS, allowing heavier and longer trucks to operate would add new costs and proposed 97,000-pound trucks would only repay 50 percent of the damage they cost; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers effectively subsidize the operation of heavy trucks in legal operation today with approximately \$2 billion annually, according to USDOT; and

WHEREAS, government highway cost allocation studies show that increases in truck size and weight would exacerbate the existing underpayment of heavy trucks by municipalities and counties, amounting to an unfunded mandate; and

WHEREAS, increasing truck weights would result in a net increase of nearly 8 million more truck trips on the highway and would further compromise the safety of motorists and the quality of roads and bridges; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Harrisburg opposes any increase in truck size or weight.

I second this resolution Shawn L. Dault

Period for City Council April 14 2015
President of City Council
Wanda R. Williams
City Clerk

YEAS	NAYS
<u>5</u>	
<u>5</u>	
<u>5</u>	
<u>5</u>	
<u>5</u>	
Years _____	_____
Nays _____	<u>0</u>

INTER

MEMO

OFFICE


To: HARRISBURG CITY COUNCIL
From: Kirk Petroski, City Clerk
LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FORM

Date: 4/10/15

LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FORM/CERTIFICATE OF ACCEPTANCE

BILL NO. -2015 RESOLUTION NO. 34-2015


THE ABOVE LISTED ITEM WAS WRITTEN AND PREPARED FOR FINAL INTRODUCTION AT THE HARRISBURG CITY SOLICITOR'S OFFICE ON:

 _____
Deputy City Solicitor 4/10/15
Date

Requested by Department/Bureau: President of City Council
Department/Bureau Contact Person: President Williams

For Action on or before:

The attached was received in the Office of the City Clerk for introduction on

Received by:  _____ Date: 4/10/15