



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Department of Transportation
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02903

Office 401-222-2481
Fax 401-222-2086
www.dot.ri.gov

April 2, 2024

The Honorable Stephen M. Casey, Chairperson
House Municipal Government and Housing Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: 2024 – H 7658 RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES – SIZE, WEIGHT AND LOAD LIMITS – WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON ROUTE 114 A EAST PROVIDENCE

Dear Chairperson Casey:

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) respectfully submits this letter of concern regarding 2024 – H 7658.

In September 2023 an engineering study was completed by the Rhode Island State Traffic Commission's engineering consultant to determine if a truck exclusion is warranted for Route 114A, East Providence. Their findings show heavy vehicles along Route 114A in June of 2023 only made up 1.3% of the total volume of traffic. The engineering study also found that the Route 114A pavement appears to be in fair and good condition and does not show deterioration that would lead to concerns about trucks damaging the pavement.

Furthermore, there are no geometric constraints along the study area that would impact the movement of commercial trucks, it is a wide and straight road. Also, the last five years of crash data did not show any crashes related to commercial trucks. Lastly, since Route 114A continues into Massachusetts, we are concerned that the truck restriction could adversely impact truck routes in Massachusetts, which does not restrict commercial vehicles on numbered routes.

We thank you for your consideration of our concerns. We are available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Peter Alviti, Jr., P.E.
Director, Rhode Island Department of Transportation

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Municipal Government and Housing Committee
The Honorable Matthew Dawson
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House