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Chair, House Committee on State Government and Elections
State House Room 101
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: House bill 7381 – AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- SIZE, WEIGHT, AND LOAD LIMITS

Dear Committee Members:

I write as a small business owner with respect to Senate bill 7381 and strongly support passage.

The intention of this legislation is important in improving the permitting process creating annual blanket permits issued through the RIDOT with respect to the current antiquated system. Essential proposing Annual/blanket permits VS the current Daily Permits, and removing burdensome unnecessary restrictions.

The current RIDOT system for daily single trip permitting process is not flexible enough for industry because it is very cumbersome to maneuver, time consuming, costly, and not flexible enough to obtain a permit instantly. It does not allow for the the pace of modern business, or the ability for the small business to adjust their schedule as needed. It requires us to know well in advance where we are going, and when we are coming back. Predicting the future schedule of business activities is extremely dynamic and impossibly to comply with everyday of the year.

Purposed blanket permits would not increase any travel on the roads. These vehicles are going whether or not it is a blanket permit or a daily permit. The road does not know the difference. It would simply give the small business the autonomy to operate in the manner that is best for the enterprise. Which is how our neighboring State of MA issues these permits.

This bill would make these DOT permits less burdensome and would allow these business sectors to utilize the overweight oversized annual blanket permits, allowing more flexibility in scheduling work, and cost / time saving compared to obtaining daily single trip permits.

I am in support of the concept of Bill-7381 and willing to work with the makers of this bill to combine our interests to make this a more robust piece of legislation. Additionally, I would be happy to further discuss the points raised in this letter at your convenience.

I have included a few additional slides, that help illustrate the issue. Please see the following page(s).

Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Stephen J Kelly

Daily Permits

Self Propelled Crane



Blanket Permits

Dump Truck



* This above slide illustrates that dump trucks are allowed blanket permission, but cranes are not. Even though they are nearly identical in size and weight.

This regulation is published right now on RIDOT.gov, and is not followed by RIDOT. The RIGL and RIDOT's own regulations are not in-step.

1.4.21 Cranes – Own Power

- A. Prior to May 1, 1989 blanket nondivisible load permits will be issued for the movement of cranes without restricting movement other than requiring cranes to abide by posted bridge limits.
- B. As of May 1, 1989, annual blanket permits will be available for intrastate movement of cranes that do not exceed the following dimensions and/or weights:
 1. 12' width
 2. 13'6" height
 3. 95' length
 4. 130,000 weight
- C. The blanket permits are restricted to a designated network that will be established by the Department of Transportation and disseminated to the trucking industry.
- D. As of May 1, 1989, all cranes that exceed the above weight and/or dimensions are required to obtain trip permits.

It does not make sense to not allow cranes, yet these vehicles have annual permits.

VEHICLES THAT HAVE ANNUAL/ BLANKET PERMITS

