

TO: The NJ Senate Labor Committee

Senator Fred Madden, senmadden@njleg.org, FAX: (856)-232-6844

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Senator Anthony Bucco, senbucco@njleg.org, FAX: 973-627-0131

Senator Sandra Cunningham, sencunningham@njleg.org FAX: 201-451-0867

CC: Bi-State Executive Director Dick Jones, dj@thebistate.com, FAX: 973-466-0085

SUBJECT: Please Vote YES on SCS for S121 [ACS for A1912/A3694]

Honorable Members of the Senate Labor Committee,

I am writing to express my support for the Senate Committee Substitute for S121 [ACS for A1912/A3694] which will provide long-needed clarity on the classification of independent owner-operators who serve the Port of NY & NJ. This important, bi-partisan legislation more clearly defines the role of independent contractors in the trucking industry, properly revising the exemption from unemployment compensation law for operators of certain motor vehicles.

These measures also help preserve and protect the flexibility that the owner-operator model brings to our intermodal community, which is essential to the continued success of commerce at our port: of the 14,674 truck drivers registered to serve the Port of NY & NJ, 80% of them are independent owner-operators.

The port industry is directly responsible for supporting a total of 336,000 jobs, bringing in nearly \$21.2 billion in personal income, and \$53.5 billion in business income generated by the industries that serve our port. The port industry also brings in \$7.1 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues annually. This bill helps ensure that will continue.

I urge you to vote YES to release this bill when it is heard by the Senate Labor Committee on January 9, 2017, and to again vote YES when it comes before the full Senate for a vote.

Thank you for your support of the intermodal trucking industry.

Sincerely,

Full Name & Email Address

Date