



State Top Industry Issues Report 2024 Idaho

1. Economy

- Identify and promote reforming / repealing ineffective and burdensome regulations that increase industry costs without providing benefits.
- Push for renewing the 2017 Federal income and corporate tax cuts that are set to expire in 2025.
- Advocate for reshoring and near-shoring of truck equipment and parts manufacturing to reduce the reliance on international supply chains.

2. Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA)

- Advocate for FMCSA to speed up the DataQ process by improving internal processes for reviewing Request for Data Reviews (RDRs).
- Encourage FMCSA to review and address enforcement disparities / geographic variations in enforcement between states and local jurisdictions that impact CSA scores, which may unfairly penalize carriers based solely on where they operate.
- Work with FMCSA to update its carrier prioritization methodology, improve its accuracy, continuously review and evaluate crash preventability factors, and enhance transparency in CSA.

3. Driver Shortage

- Examine potential new pathways into truck driving careers for under-represented populations including military veterans, inner city youth, young adults aging out of foster care, and formerly incarcerated individuals, among others.
- Support an industry-funded outreach program to improve the trucking industry's image.
- Advocate for expanding interstate CDL eligibility to 18-20-year old drivers.

4. Battery Electric Vehicles

- Research the impacts of battery electric vehicles on transportation infrastructure, crash response and first responder safety.
- Quantify the charging infrastructure availability and / or requirements and subsequent supply chain costs of battery electric truck mandates.

5. Driver Distraction

- Research and quantify the role of car driver distraction in car-truck crashes.
- Advocate for national standards for distracted driving laws for all motorists.
- Encourage harsher penalties and more aggressive enforcement of distracted driving laws for all motorists.

6. Lawsuit Abuse Reform

- Promote state-level reform to cap damages paid to plaintiffs in truck-involved crashes.
- Quantify the impact of third-party litigation funding on trial outcomes.
- Advocate for elimination of "phantom" medical damages.

Issues and strategies are listed in order as ranked by Idaho-based respondents.

7. Driver Retention

- Evaluate the impact of truck driver benefits, including health insurance and retirement benefits, on driver retention.
- Quantify and promote the retention strategies of carriers that continuously experience low driver turnover.
- Research the primary factors behind drivers leaving trucking careers.

8. Insurance Cost / Availability

- Educate the public on the role of lawsuit abuse in increasing consumer prices and insurance costs.
- Develop framework for potential upfront insurance premium reductions when drivers and carriers adopt proven safety technologies.

9. Truck Parking

- Encourage local and regional governments to reduce the regulatory burdens limiting the construction and expansion of truck parking facilities.
- Support state DOT applications for U.S. DOT grants to expand truck parking.
- Advocate for a dedicated federal funding program to increase truck parking capacity at freight-critical locations.

10. Fuel Prices

- Advocate for federal policies and actions that help stabilize the supply of fuel and minimize price increases.
- Research potential factors that may be affecting fuel availability and pricing volatility.