



February 5, 2026

Virginia Extends Hours of Service/Weight Waiver Thru February 12

Included below is a Virginia specific waiver for driver hours of service and weight which will now be in effect thru next Thursday, February 12. A copy may be [found here](#) and should be placed in all trucks for the week. Upon receiving it, I was informed by a very high-level state official that "it is going to be 50 degrees next week and your folks need to be caught up by then." That tells me that a further extension will be very difficult to achieve unless unforeseen weather events happen in the meantime.

Further, many have asked about the Federal Highway Safety Administration's waiver extension - issued Tuesday, that included Virginia. This has again led to confusion and mixed opinions as to whether the federal waiver covered trucks operating on state roads. My decision was to wait until the state waiver was issued before sending information to the membership. In past years under similar circumstances, we have seen trucks pulled over and issued citations - even though federal waivers were in effect. Once the heating season is over we, along with our colleagues at the propane association, will be requesting a meeting with relevant state and federal officials in an effort to develop a clear protocol for future declarations.

Finally, last night I received the following communication from the regional FMCSA office: "Just to be clear, this provides relief from the maximum driving time regulations for drivers that are "providing direct assistance." Direct assistance does not include transportation related to long-term rehabilitation of damaged physical infrastructure after the initial threat to life and property has passed, nor does it include routine commercial deliveries, including mixed loads with a nominal quantity of qualifying emergency relief added to obtain the benefits of the declaration."

Winter Weather Waiver

Sincerely,

Mike O'Connor
President, VPCMA