

Intrastate HHG Moving and Storage business within Washington is extremely competitive and is appropriately governed by WAC 480-15 and UTC HHG Tariff No. 15-C. I can find no guidance in either publication that directs my attention to a discussion on the opportunity to Contract for and/or Broker HHG moving services within Washington.

Consumers have the right and the need to know exactly who they are dealing with when turning over all of their possessions for a move from one residence to another. Have the workers been professionally trained? Have the workers been background screened? Which entity is responsible for loss and damage if such exists? They will want to know too if they are protected from doctor/hospital costs if a worker gets hurt on their property? And more.

So let's continue to maintain the proper regulation of household goods carriers in Washington with the rules that establish proper standards for public safety, fair competitive practices and assessing just and reasonable charges, nondiscriminatory application of rates, adequate and dependable service with strong consumer protection, as well as compliance with Washington statutes, rules and commission orders.

There is nothing I can find in WAC 480-15 that relieves any household goods carrier from its duties and obligations under the laws of the state of Washington including, but not limited to, public utility, labor, employment, and other taxes, and business and vehicle licensing requirements.

I thank you in advance for your strong consideration of this Petition for a Declaratory Order.

There must be a level playing field for all regulated intrastate HHG moving carriers.

For questions, I may be reached at (206) 499-9216.

Sincerely,



James R. Tutton, Jr.
Executive Director