

Date Received: April 20, 1998

Docket No.: TV-971477

Company: Amends WAC 480-12, Relating to Household Goods Movers

Distribution:

Chairwoman Levinson
Commissioner Gillis
Commissioner Hemstad
Marjorie Schaer, ALJ
Shirley Burrell (Rulemakings cover letters only & changes to NOH)
Penny Hansen
Teresa Osinski
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WASH. UT. & TP. COMM.

FEBRUARY 13, 1998

MS PAT DUTTON, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT
TRANSPORTATION
WUTC
P.O. BOX 47250
OLYMPIA, WA 98504-7250

DEAR MS. DUTTON,

BOUSH MOVING & STORAGE HAS BEEN SERVING THE PUYALLUP VALLEY SINCE 1919. WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR REPUTATION AS AN HONEST, HARD WORKING COMPANY THAT PUTS THE CUSTOMER FIRST.

I AM WRITING THIS LETTER IN RESPONSE TO THE HHG RULEMAKING OPEN MEETING ON APRIL 14, 1998. AS A SMALL BUSINESS OWNER, I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPACTS OF SOME OF THE CHANGES THAT THE TRANSPORTATION STAFF HAS OUTLINED. THESE EXTREME IMPACTS COULD POSSIBLY FORCE US OUT OF BUSINESS.

I FOUND THE WORKSHOP VERY ENLIGHTENING, AND APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE. YOUR COMMISSION HAS A HUGE TASK AHEAD OF THEM. I WOULD LIKE TO THINK OF THIS AS *REREGULATING* AS OPPOSED TO DEREGULATING.

IN 1925 THROUGH 1935 MY GRANDFATHER WAS ISSUED A WUTC #562 WHICH ALLOWED HIM THE AUTHORITY TO HAUL HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND COMMODITIES WITHIN THE PUYALLUP AND PIERCE COUNTY AREA ALONG WITH HOUSEHOLD GOODS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. WE HAVE EXERCISED THESE RIGHTS FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES THAT THE WUTC SET DOWN. BOUSH MOVING WAS AND IS STILL OPERATING UNDER THESE RIGHTS.

FOR YEARS, WE IN THE MOVING INDUSTRY HAVE BEEN LIKE OSTRICHES WITH OUR HEADS IN THE SAND THINKING THAT THIS *REREGULATION* WOULD NEVER HAPPEN.



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WE ARE ALL VERY CONCERNED THAT THIS MAY BE HAPPENING NOW. THE LONG TIME MOVING COMPANIES HAVE BUILT THEIR BUSINESSES ON INTEGRITY AND QUALITY. MOST OF ALL, THEY HAVE MET THE CRITERIA OF THE WUTC. WE HAVE STAYED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES WE WERE GIVEN.

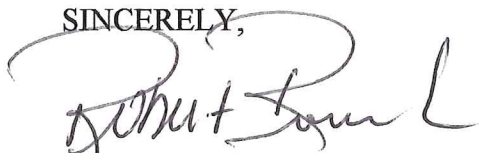
THERE ARE COMPANIES WHICH HAVE PURCHASED RIGHTS WITHIN THE LAST 20 YEARS THAT HAVE PAYED UP AND BEYOND \$20,000. IS IT FAIR TO ISSUE RIGHTS TO NEW COMPANIES FOR LITTLE TO NOTHING? I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT ISSUING NEW RIGHTS TO OTHER COMPANIES AS LONG AS THEY, LIKE THE REST OF US, PURCHASE THESE RIGHTS FROM OTHERS OR THE STATE. PERHAPS AN EQUITABLE PRICE COULD BE REACHED THROUGH NEGOTIATION WITH THE INDUSTRY THAT WOULD BE FAIR TO ALL PARTIES INVOLVED.

IN PAST CONVERSATIONS WITH JIM SMITH WHO HAS BEEN IN QUALITY CONTROL AT FT LEWIS FOR OVER 10 YEARS, HE IS BESIDE HIMSELF WITH THE QUALITY OF WORK WITH THE LOW BID BASIS. PERHAPS IT WOULD BE IN YOUR BEST INTEREST TO TALK TO HIM OR RON TROW AT FT LEWIS TO GET IDEAS FOR PRICING AND MINIMUM WAGE SCALES FOR NEW MOVERS COMING INTO THE AREA OR APPLYING FOR AUTHORITY.

I STRONGLY URGE THE COMMISSION TO MONITOR THE GROWTH OF THE INDUSTRY, TO CONTINUE TO REGULATE THE EXISTING MOVERS, AND WHERE NEW AUTHORITY IS GIVEN, MAKE THE PLAYING FIELD LEVEL. MAYBE A QUESTIONNAIRE TO EXISTING MOVERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE WOULD GIVE YOU INPUT FOR A FORMAT FOR ALLOCATING NEW PERMITS OR AUTHORITY.

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME THE TIME TO VOICE MY OPINION ON THIS ISSUE.

SINCERELY,



ROBERT BOUSH JR.
OWNER
BOUSH MOVING & STORAGE INC.

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