



## Washington Movers Conference

of the Washington Trucking Associations

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James R. Tutton, Jr.  
Executive Director

April 20, 2016

Mr. Steve King  
Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

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STATE OF WA  
UTIL. AND TRNSP.  
COMMISSION

Dear Mr. King:

In accordance with WAC 480-15-510, the Washington Movers Conference (WMC) would like to petition the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) for an increase to the Maximum rates to be charged for Mileage Rated household good moves as shown in WUTC HHG Tariff No. 15-C - ITEM 200 and for Hourly Rates shown in WUTC HHG Tariff No. 15-C - ITEM 203, Paragraphs 6a and 6b.

Current rates have been in place since February 1, 2008; eight years without an increase.

Costs of doing business have increased over the years to the point the current rates are no longer compensatory. Examples of higher costs include –

1. New WAC rule, 480-15-555, requiring Criminal Background Checks for every person the company plans to hire.
2. Recent increase to the state, county and/or city's minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour.
3. Recent changes at the local city levels requiring mandatory sick leave.
4. Recent state legislative mandates increasing state taxes and fees.
5. Increased cost for complying with new Transportation Security Administration requirements, i.e. new requirements for gaining admission to military installations in Washington State to service military families.
6. Federal changes put in place by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration include CSA (Compliance, Safety, Accountability) rules and Hours of Service changes now requiring mandatory rest breaks drive up expenses.
7. The new Federal requirement to put in place in motor carrier's equipment, including HHG carriers, the new Electronic Logging Devices to replace the paper log books now maintained.

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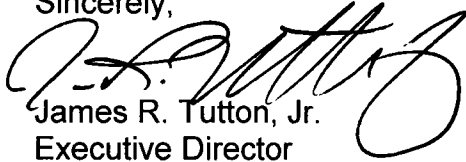
8. Increased congestion on Federal interstates, State highways and City streets causing longer delivery times. According to Bellevue based Inrix, the Seattle area now ranks sixth in the nation for congestion with 66 hours wasted in traffic during 2015. With the good weather through the Spring, Summer and early Fall, you can include highway construction work zones adding to the congestion. And,

9. Tolling on the State's bridges is becoming an ever increasing burden on the moving company's expense list as well.

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Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
James R. Tutton, Jr.  
Executive Director