Trucking Association of New York
Information Sheet

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2026 Small Business Impact and Considerations

Small businesses are the backbone of New York's trucking industry and economy, but rising costs, workforce challenges, complex regulations, and limited access to support service—like affordable childcare, insurance, and retention programs—threaten their viability. Recruiting and retaining employees often depends on dependable childcare and manageable schedules. Policies that reduce costs, expand family support service, streamline regulations, and strengthen small business resources are critical to sustaining local carriers, preserving supply chains, and supporting economic growth. TANY advocates for practical, small-business-focused solutions that keep independent carriers and local transportation companies competitive.

The following are issues that are not yet TANY priorities, but we are keeping a close eye on them and often working with coalitions and partners to ensure the business climate is conducive to the success and growth of our industry.

TRANSPORTATION

Protecting Third Party Logistics

Oppose S.1514 (Harkham)/ A. 6664 (Bronson) This grants the New York State Department of Labor (NYS DOL) sweeping authority to issue "stop work orders" for alleged independent contractor misclassification—without requiring an objective standard or full evidentiary hearing. Because independent contractor status is often fact-specific and subject to differing legal interpretations (with agencies frequently overturned by courts), allowing unilateral shutdown power before adjudication creates serious due process concerns and exposes businesses to arbitrary enforcement.

Beyond legal risks, the bill could have severe unintended consequences for critical industries that rely on flexible workforces, particularly logistics and delivery. Pharmaceutical distribution, which relies on a complex network of wholesalers, third-party logistics providers, and independent couriers, is essential to public health. With over 90% of wholesale drug distribution concentrated among three major companies and significant reliance on contracted carriers for last-mile delivery, discretionary stop-work orders could disrupt supply chains, delay life-saving medications, and create broader economic instability across New York State.

In short, S.1514/A.6664 poses significant due process, economic, and public health risks by empowering the NYS DOL to shut down operations before legal determinations are made.

Transparency in User Fees

Support S.9343 (Cooney) The bill clarifies that any fee the New York State Thruway Authority seeks to impose is subject to the same public notice and review process as a proposed toll increase. Passage of this legislation would ensure transparency and allows public input on proposals that would increase costs to operate on the NYS Thruway. The legislation preserves the Authority's ability to recover legitimate administrative costs while ensuring that such fees are imposed openly, with clear justification and opportunity for public comment.

REGULATORY REFORM

- According to a recent report by the Public Policy Institute, New York's economic competitiveness has suffered, in part, due to overregulation.
- New York State has more than 300,000 regulations, second only to California. These regulations contain more than 17 million words.
- Businesses of all sizes struggle to navigate this web of regulation. Particularly for small businesses, this is especially daunting and insurmountable.
- The pace of regulations shows no sign of slowing. New York lawmakers typically file the most legislation over a two-year period in the nation. In the 2023-2024 legislative session, over 24,000 bills were filed, five times the national average and nearly double the next closest state.
- The high volume of regulations leads to uncertainty, increased compliance costs, and valuable time, limiting economic investment and opportunities in New York.

TANY supports a comprehensive review of New York's regulations in an effort to remove duplicative, outdated, or unnecessarily onerous rules.

SEQRA REFORM

- The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) needs significant reform to enable faster and more cost-effective project development.
- SEQRA timelines vary greatly across projects, creating an environment of unpredictability, project delays, and increased costs.
- The Governor's Let Them Build agenda seeks to limit project review to a maximum of two-years provides needed predictability. Streamlining environmental impact statements will cut down review timelines, and modernizing permitting processes will save time and money for localities while also cutting down on bottlenecks.

TANY supports SEQRA reform to expedite, streamline, and cut down on red tape for the development and building process.

REJECTING TAX INCREASES

- New York already leads the nation with some of the highest tax rates. According to the Tax Foundation, New York is the worst state for income taxes (50th) and ranks near the bottom in sales (42nd) and property taxes (47th).
- With high taxes, out-of-control insurance premiums, and rising utility bills, the state is an expensive and difficult environment for small businesses to succeed. New or increased taxes further disadvantage New York businesses and exacerbate New York's affordability crisis.

TANY strongly opposes new taxes or increased taxes on small businesses.

About TANY

Since 1932, the **Trucking Association of New York (TANY)** has advocated for the trucking industry at all levels of government, providing compliance assistance, safety programs, and educational opportunities. Our nearly 550 member companies support good jobs, economic vitality, roadway safety, and a sustainable future for New York.

Prepared by the Trucking Association of New York for legislative consideration.