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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF RIDE AND MEASUREMENT STANDARDS

March 14, 2000

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Docket Clerk  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Room P1-401  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

To whom it may concern:

FHWA 97 2979-50

Please include into the written record the attached comments regarding Docket No. FHWA-1997-2979 as my written testimony supporting the current regulations requiring the use of certified scales for independent shipping by the moving and storage industry.

Testimony:

I strongly support the use of certified scales for all aspects of commerce done by weight.

I very strongly support the retention of the regulation requiring the moving and storage industry to continue to be required to use certified scales when conducting commerce where cost is determined by weight.

I have been in the Weights and Measures enforcement field for seventeen years and have discovered and prosecuted moving and storage companies for falsifying weighmaster certificates by "bumping." This a term to describe any method where additional charges to the customer are claimed by the moving and storage company by adding additional weight to the load or by adding weight to the scale and then weighing the load.

The use of on-board non-certified scales will be an invitation for unscrupulous operators to defraud consumers.

Please feel free to contact me at (717-787-9089) if you require more information regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Bruckner".

Charles Bruckner, Director