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U.S. Senator Richard Durbin  
364 Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

FMCSA - 98-3298-19  
FMCSA-48-3297-25  
FMCSA-98-3299-20

January 22, 2001

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Dear Senator Durbin,

The ban on Mexican trucks and their drivers beyond the 3-20 mile commercial zone into the United States should not be lifted due to the following:

- I. Mexican truck drivers are not required to keep logbooks, undergo regular roadside inspections or limit the number of hours per day they are behind the wheel. U.S. and Canadian truck drivers are.
- II. An audit in the past by the inspector general of the U.S. Department of Transportation found that almost half of Mexican trucks inspected at the U.S. -Mexican border had failed inspections.
- III. A lifting of the ban would only increase Mexico's illegal drug trafficking into the United States.
- IV. Illegal immigration from Mexico, central, and south America would only increase if the ban were lifted.
- V. Economically, if the ban were lifted, long term effects to U.S. truck drivers would be disastrous-due to job losses.
- VI. Overall the ban should not be lifted in order to keep our highways safe for commercial as well as automobile traffic on an already overcrowded, congested interstate system.

Thank You,

Signed

Row Skells

RICHARD J. DURBIN  
ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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United States Senate  
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March 1, 2001

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U.S. Department of Transportation  
Government Relations  
400 Seventh Street, SW  
Room 10402  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Friends:

Please find enclosed three inquiries from Illinois constituents who have written me to express concern about Mexican trucks.

I would appreciate whatever information you can provide that will address their concerns. Please respond directly to them, and forward a copy of your response to Mark Palmer in my Washington, D.C., office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

RJD/mp

Enc.

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