

213527
January 21, 2003

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
03 JAN 27 PM 3:54

FMCSA Docket No. FMCSA-2002-13295 - 52
U.S. Department of Transportation
Dockets Management Facility, Rm. PL-401
400 Seventh Str., SW
Washington, DC 20590-0001

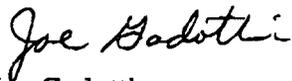
Subject: Federal Register Notice on Oregon Farm Truck Exemption Request

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Joe Gadotti and I am a full time farmer in Columbia County Oregon. I grow several different crops with each having special hauling needs. It is critical to my farming operation that I have farm trucks to haul my products. These trucks are not used on a for hire basis and are not on the road for any extended period of time. Oregon allows me to put farm plates on my trucks and has for over 30 years because of their limited use. In Oregon, farm trucks have exceptional safety records and account for less than 1 % of truck accidents. Also, driver behavior rather than mechanical failure cause the vast majority of truck accidents. Oregon already has a comprehensive and aggressive traffic enforcement program that applies to farm truck drivers and goes above the federal requirements. No additional authority is needed for compliance with duplicative and unnecessary federal regulation.

Today, I am asking you to give ODOT the 2-year renewable exemption from the federal regulations that mandate certain truck parts and accessories, and the requirements for inspection, repair and maintenance on farm trucks that they have petitioned for.

Thank you,


Joe Gadotti
33717 Johnsons Landing Rd.
Scappoose, Or 97056

January 21, 2003