

April 21, 2021

Chairman Tom Carper
Senate Committee on Environment
and Public Works
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito
Senate Committee on Environment
and Public Works
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Ben Cardin
Senate Subcommittee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Ranking Member Kevin Cramer
Senate Subcommittee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper, Ranking Member Capito, Chairman Cardin, and Ranking Member Cramer:

As Congress works toward a surface transportation reauthorization, we request your support and leadership to allow vehicles transporting life-saving blood and blood components to access HOV/carpool lanes. In large metro areas, high volume traffic, construction, or possible accidents may clog the roads and surface streets, preventing needed blood and blood components from reaching their destination in a timely manner.

Blood center vehicles with access to the HOV lanes will be transporting blood to laboratories for processing or to hospitals to meet patients' needs. Particularly in times of an ASAP order or STAT order from hospitals, time is of the essence. Having access to HOV lanes will reduce the current transport time between destinations, maximizing the availability of these life-saving therapies.

Some states have already passed legislation allowing blood transport vehicles access to HOV lanes, and other state legislatures are considering doing so. However, federal law currently does not allow these laws to go into full effect.

For the above reasons, we respectfully request your assistance to ensure federal law allows blood center vehicles with appropriate signage to access HOV lanes.

Sincerely,



April 21, 2021

Chairman Peter DeFazio
House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Sam Graves
House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chairwoman Eleanor Holmes Norton
House Subcommittee on Highways
and Transit
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Rodney Davis
House Subcommittee on Highways
and Transit
590 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio, Ranking Member Graves, Chairwoman Norton, and Ranking Member Davis:

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