



**GENERAL
TEAMSTERS
LOCAL 959
STATE OF ALASKA**

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Gary Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer

520 E. 34th Ave., Suite 102, Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Phone (907) 751-8501 • Fax (907) 751-8599

April 18, 2019

Senator Mia Costello
State Capitol Room 119
Juneau AK, 99801

Re: Support for SB 75

Dear Senator Costello:

On behalf of Teamsters Local 959, I am writing to express support for SB 75. If passed, this Bill will give young adults coming out of high school the opportunity to obtain a CDL or apply for an Apprenticeship program; helping them obtain work in the Construction and Freight fields.

The demand for CDL drivers is at an all-time high and SB 75 would provide options for our recently graduated youth to start their career paths in these industries sooner.

In closing, giving our youth more opportunities and helping with the demand for CDL drivers is a positive outcome and Local 959 supports SB 75.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Gary Dixon
Secretary-Treasurer

GD:jk



To: Senate Transportation Committee

Re: SB 75

My name is Jeremy Miller and I am the Vice President of Trucking Operations at Carlile.

I am writing to express my support for SB 75 lowering the legal age of a CDL holder to 18 years old. The trucking industry as a whole has become very safety conscious and focused, adopting safer equipment that utilizes technology and implementing continuous training programs to develop drivers once they are hired. Many states have already adopted 18 as the legal age and Alaskan 18 year olds are capable of safely operating vehicles that require a CDL.

Nationwide we are experiencing a driver shortage in the tens of thousands. Passing SB 75 will help us in our effort to allow 18 year olds the opportunity to enter a career oriented industry immediately out of high school.

In closing SB75 is a good bill and I ask that you carefully consider and pass it.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Miller
Vice President of Trucking Operations



1740 N. Terrilou Court • Palmer, AK 99645
(907) 357-6400 • 1-888-367-6482 • FAX (907) 357-6430
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To: Senate Transportation Committee

Re: SB 75

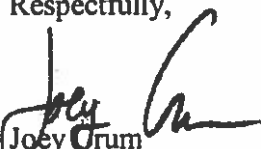
My name is Joey Crum and I am the President and CEO of Northern Industrial Training, LLC otherwise known as NIT. NIT is a nationally accredited post-secondary education provider headquartered in Palmer, with training locations state wide. NIT is Alaska's largest provider of CDL training and we have multiple CDL courses certified by the Professional Truck Driving Institute.

I am writing to express my support for SB 75 lowering the legal age of a CDL holder to 18 years old. The trucking industry as a whole has become very safety conscious and focused, adopting safer equipment that utilizes technology and implementing continuous training programs to develop drivers once they are hired. Many states have already adopted 18 as the legal age and Alaskan 18 year olds are capable of safely operating vehicles that require a CDL.

Nationwide, we are experiencing a driver shortage in the tens of thousands. Passing SB 75 will help us in our effort in lessening this shortage, and to allow 18 year olds the opportunity to enter a career oriented industry immediately out of high school.

In closing, SB75 is a good bill and I ask that you carefully consider and pass it.

Respectfully,


Joey Crum
President & CEO



International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCAL 302 • Washington • Alaska • Idaho • AFL-CIO

Daren Konopaski, *Business Manager & General Vice President*

March 8, 2019

Senator Mia Costello
State Capitol Room 119
Juneau AK, 99801

Re: SB 75 – license to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

Dear Senator Costello:

The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302 is writing this letter in support of SB75 to lower the age limit to the age of 18 to receive your commercial driver's license.

The Operating Engineers Training Center in Palmer Alaska trains over 20 to 25 new heavy duty mechanic apprentices and 20 to 25 new heavy equipment operator apprentices every year. In the three months of initial training every apprentice receives a commercial driver's license except the few apprentices that are 18 years of age. It is crucial for the apprentices in their first year to get as many endorsements or licenses as they can so when the coordinators find them employment with our union contractors, they will be prepared and ready for work.

Again, we are in full support of SB75 and look forward to seeing the age limit changed to help Alaskan have a productive future.

Sincerely,

Corey Baxter
District 8 Representative
907-321-4271

Sean Jeffries, *President* • Jason Alward, *Vice President*
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ALASKA AFL-CIO

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VINCE BELTRAMI
Executive President



JAKE METCALFE
Secretary / Treasurer

March 14, 2019

Honorable Mia Costello
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Costello:

On behalf of the Alaska AFL-CIO and our over 55 local unions and our 50,000 members we would like to thank you for introducing SB 75.

We are in strong support of the provisions included in this bill. Many of our trades and crafts require a CDL as a part of their work and many apprenticeship programs require them during training.

In fact, in some crafts the requirement to be 19 can impede certain apprentices on their path to graduation. These students may have the required number of class hours and hours in the field, but the inability to sit for the CDL exam can hold them back from advancement.

Thank you again for introducing SB 75 and we look forward to helping ensure this bill is passed.

Vince Beltrami

Alaska AFL-CIO