

**Testimony of Arik Spencer**  
**Interim Transportation Committee**  
**Weigh Station Bypass**  
**February 23, 2016**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Interim Transportation Committee my name is Arik Spencer, Executive Vice President of the North Dakota Motor Carriers Association. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on weigh station bypass technology.

Weigh station bypass technology allows participating commercial vehicles to be electronically pre-screened for compliance with safety and weight regulations and as they approach either fixed or mobile weigh stations. Several miles before a weigh station, trucks are electronically identified and weighed, the computer system then verifies truck credentials. If the participating vehicle's weight and credentials are found to be satisfactory, the drivers are signaled to bypass the weigh station. If weight or credentials cannot be verified, the driver is required to pull into the weigh station for regular processing. This saves time and money for both law enforcement and motor carriers.

The North Dakota Motor Carriers Association (and most other state trucking associations) have endorsed weigh station bypass technology for years due to efficiencies it creates for the trucking industry, for law enforcement and for the movement of freight.

- According to a Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration study, each time a truck bypasses a weigh station it saves the carrier around nine dollars. Multiply that over years and over a whole fleet, the savings run into the millions. North Dakota Motor Carrier Association members who use the technology in other states confirm the savings and are asking for it here.
- Between the two major providers of weigh station bypass technology, Drivewyze and PrePass, 44 other states use the service, including all those that surround North Dakota. Many of those states even use multiple services.
- Weigh station bypass technology investments are provided to state law enforcement agencies at no cost, saving time and tax payer dollars. Weigh station bypass costs are fronted by weigh station bypass service providers, who in turn collect subscription fees from participating trucking companies who pay between \$15.00 and \$16.00 per truck, per month for the service.
- Weigh station bypass systems support ND's State Freight Plan, which specifically calls for "innovative technologies to improve the safe, secure, and efficient movement of freight".

As you've heard, the North Dakota Highway Patrol has been looking into the technology for several years and we applaud their interest in doing so. To our knowledge, they need no new legislative authority or budget authority to move forward. We have been actively encouraging them to move forward on the process to select a weigh station bypass provider before the next session because programs like this that save time and money for government and industry are extremely important, especially given the budget situation we currently face.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my remarks and I would be happy to answer any questions.