**Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee (MCSAC)**

**Task Statement 14-1**

**I. Task Title**

Recommendations to the Agency on items to be included in the upcoming reauthorization of the surface transportation law, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21, Pub. L. 112-141).

**II. Background**

In July 2012, the Congress enacted the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21, Pub. L. 112-141), a two-year law reauthorizing the surface transportation act through October 2014. Included in that law were expansions of FMCSA’s authority in several areas, including the increasing of enforcement penalties and imminent hazard authorities for unsafe property carriers, improved grant standards to States for commercial motor vehicle safety grants, and new authority to order the return of household goods held hostage; agricultural exemption provisions; and a streamlined process for applying for waivers, exemptions, and pilot programs.

MAP-21 directed the Agency to complete 29 new rulemakings within 27 months, to implement 34 programmatic changes, and complete 15 reports. Authorization funding levels were mostly level with its predecessor, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU, Pub. L. 109-59).

As MAP-21’s expiration date approaches quickly, the Agency would appreciate having the benefit of the recommendations of the MCSAC members from their respective stakeholder communities and across them as to where the committee would like to see the Agency go in a new authorization.

**III. Task**

The Agency requests the MCSAC consider the history of the Agency’s legislative, regulatory and oversight efforts, as well as previous reauthorization issues included and not included in a final law. Further, the Agency asks the MCSAC to identify ideas FMCSA should consider in moving forward with recommendations to the Department, and ultimately the Congress, on surface transportation reauthorization. In preparing its letter report to the Agency, the Committee should, wherever possible, indicate whether the ideas identified are supported by research and data analyses, including cost/benefit considerations. As the MCSAC meetings are open to the general public, the Committee should consider any information identified by individuals making remarks during the meeting’s public comment period.

**IV. Estimated Time to Complete Task**

The MCSAC should begin work on Task 14-1 at its February 2014 meeting and should provide a letter report to the Administrator outlining reauthorization recommendations by its May 2014 meeting.

**V. FMCSA Technical Representatives**

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