

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8799

To establish certain requirements for any communications by a private entity regarding United States Department of Transportation numbers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2026

Ms. PEREZ (for herself and Mr. TAYLOR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To establish certain requirements for any communications by a private entity regarding United States Department of Transportation numbers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stop Scamming Truck-
5 ers Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. USDOT NUMBER COMMUNICATION.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Adminis-
9 tration, an agency within the Department of Trans-

1 portation, administers the registration and issuance
2 of United States Department of Transportation
3 numbers (in this section referred to as “USDOT
4 numbers”).

5 (2) Private entities frequently communicate
6 with motor carriers and prospective motor carriers
7 regarding USDOT number registration, renewal, up-
8 dating, or compliance.

9 (3) Some such communications are presented in
10 a manner that may reasonably cause recipients to
11 believe the sender is a Federal agency or acting on
12 behalf of the United States Government.

13 (4) Misleading communications regarding
14 USDOT number registration impose unnecessary
15 costs on motor carriers, particularly small businesses
16 and owner-operators.

17 (b) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any covered entity that
19 transmits a USDOT number communication shall
20 include, in a legible font, the following disclosure:

21 “This communication is from a private company. We are
22 not the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the
23 Department of Transportation, or any other Federal Gov-
24 ernment agency, and we are not affiliated with the United
25 States Government.”.

1 (2) PLACEMENT.—The disclosure required
2 under paragraph (1) shall—

3 (A) appear on the first page of any printed
4 communication;

5 (B) appear without the need to scroll in
6 any electronic or digital communication; and

7 (C) not be obscured, minimized, contra-
8 dicted, or qualified by any other statement or
9 design element.

10 (3) PROHIBITED REPRESENTATIONS.—A cov-
11 ered entity may not—

12 (A) use any name, seal, logo, insignia, or
13 trade dress that would reasonably imply affili-
14 ation with FMCSA or the Department of
15 Transportation; or

16 (B) State or imply that payment to the
17 covered entity is required to obtain or maintain
18 a USDOT number.

19 (c) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who receives a
21 USDOT number communication that violates this
22 Act may bring a civil action in an appropriate
23 United States district court.

24 (2) DAMAGES.—In an action brought under this
25 subsection, a court may award—

1 (A) actual damages, including any
2 amounts paid to the covered entity;

3 (B) statutory damages of not less than
4 \$500 and not more than \$5,000 per violation,
5 per communication;

6 (C) injunctive or declaratory relief; and

7 (D) reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

8 (3) BURDEN OF PROOF.—A plaintiff shall not
9 be required to prove actual reliance, intent to de-
10 ceive, or actual confusion to prevail under this sec-
11 tion.

12 (4) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—The statute of
13 limitations for an action brought under this sub-
14 section shall be 5 years.

15 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
16 may be construed to limit—

17 (1) enforcement authority of the Federal Motor
18 Carrier Safety Administration or the Department of
19 Transportation; or

20 (2) any State law or regulation that provides
21 equal or greater protection against deceptive prac-
22 tices.

23 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

24 (1) USDOT NUMBER COMMUNICATION.—The
25 term “USDOT number communication” means any

1 written, electronic, or digital communication that
2 references—

3 (A) the registration, issuance, renewal, up-
4 dating, or maintenance of a USDOT number;
5 or

6 (B) compliance with Federal motor carrier
7 registration or identification requirements ad-
8 ministered by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety
9 Administration.

10 (2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-
11 tity” means any person, partnership, corporation,
12 association, or other legal entity, other than a Fed-
13 eral, State, or local government agency, that trans-
14 mits a USDOT number communication in the course
15 of commerce.

16 (3) LEGIBLE FONT.—The term “legible font”
17 means a font size, style, and color that is easily
18 readable by a reasonable person, and in no event
19 smaller than—

20 (A) 12-point font in printed communica-
21 tions; or

22 (B) the predominant font size used in the
23 body text of the communication for electronic or
24 digital communications.

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