



MEDIA ADVISORY

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JANUARY 12, 1998

CONTACT: Shawn Davis, Public Information Officer
(404) 656-6558 or 1-800-282-5813

PSC ~~1993~~ ~~1994~~ ~~1995~~ ~~1996~~ ~~1997~~ 1998 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

1. GET MORE TRUCK SAFETY ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

###

[Note: For details, see attached resolution passed unanimously by the Georgia Public Service Commission on December 16, 1997]

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

Expressing unanimous support by the members of the Georgia Public Service Commission that the General Assembly should increase the number of truck safety enforcement officers in the state of Georgia.

Whereas *the number of commercial vehicles continues to grow on Georgia's highways;*

Whereas *Georgia continues to rank among the ten states with the highest number of fatalities resulting from crashes involving commercial vehicles;*

Whereas *the Georgia Public Service Commission is the sole state agency responsible for enforcing*

federal and state commercial vehicle safety regulations;

Whereas *many truck accidents can be prevented through inspections by PSC enforcement officers who check for unsafe vehicle equipment, driver sobriety and fatigue levels, and the safe transport of hazardous materials;*

Whereas *thirty-four PSC enforcement officers perform an average of 30,000 inspections in a given year resulting in over 8,000 vehicles being placed out of service and over 3,000 drivers being removed from Georgia's highways because of the serious nature of the safety violations observed;*

Whereas *Georgia motorists can expect safer highways if the state takes greater advantage of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program which provides states with 80% of the funding necessary for commercial vehicle safety and safety awareness;*

Whereas *the Public Service Commission has requested in its 1999 budget request \$160,000 in state dollars to be supplemented by \$640,000 in federal funds to hire ten additional enforcement officers: Now, therefore be it*

Resolved, That it is the unanimous position of the Georgia Public Service Commission that the General Assembly should approve its 1999 budget request expanding the number of truck safety enforcement officers making Georgia's highways safer for all motorists.

This 16th day of December, 1997,

Stan Wise

Chairman

Bobby Baker

Commissioner

Dave Baker

Commissioner

Mac Barber

Commissioner

Bob Durden

Commissioner