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SAFE, ACCOUNTABLE, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A  
LEGACY FOR USERS

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Public Law 109-59  
109th Congress

An Act

To authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs,  
and transit programs, and for other purposes. <<NOTE: Aug. 10,  
2005 - [H.R. 3]>>

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the  
United States of America in Congress <<NOTE: Safe, Accountable,  
Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for  
Users. Inter- governmental relations. 23 USC 101 note.>> assembled,

SEC. 4304. UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

Section 13908 of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as  
follows:

``Sec. 13908. Registration and other reforms

``(a) Establishment of <<NOTE: Regulations. Deadline.>> Unified  
Carrier Registration System.--The Secretary, in cooperation with the  
States, representatives of the motor carrier, motor private carrier,  
freight forwarder, and broker industries and after notice and  
opportunity for public comment, shall issue within 1 year after the date  
of enactment of the Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005 regulations  
to establish an online Federal registration system, to be named the  
'Unified Carrier Registration System', to replace--

``(1) the current Department of Transportation  
identification number system, the single State registration  
system under section 14504;

``(2) the registration system contained in this chapter and  
the financial responsibility information system under section  
13906; and

``(3) the service of process agent systems under sections  
503 and 13304.

``(b) Role as Clearinghouse and Depository of Information.--The  
Unified Carrier Registration System shall serve as a clearinghouse and  
depository of information on, and identification of, all foreign and  
domestic motor carriers, motor private carriers, brokers, freight  
forwarders, and others required to register with the Department of  
Transportation, including information with respect to a carrier's safety  
rating, compliance with required levels of financial responsibility, and

compliance with the provisions of section 14504a. The Secretary shall ensure that Federal agencies, States, representatives of the motor carrier industry, and the public have access to the Unified Carrier Registration System, including the records and information contained in the System.

((c) Procedures for <<NOTE: Regulations. Deadline.>> Correcting Information.--Not later than 60 days after the effective date of this section, the Secretary shall prescribe regulations establishing procedures that enable a

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motor carrier to correct erroneous information contained in any part of the Unified Carrier Registration System.

((d) Fee System.--The Secretary shall establish, under section 9701 of title 31, a fee system for the Unified Carrier Registration System according to the following guidelines:

((1) Registration and filing evidence of financial responsibility.--The fee for new registrants shall as nearly as possible cover the costs of processing the registration but shall not exceed \$300.

((2) Evidence of financial responsibility.--The fee for filing evidence of financial responsibility pursuant to this section shall not exceed \$10 per filing. No fee shall be charged for a filing for purposes of designating an agent for service of process or the filing of other information relating to financial responsibility.

((3) Access and retrieval fees.--

((A) In general.--Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the fee system shall include a nominal fee for the access to or retrieval of information from the Unified Carrier Registration System to cover the costs of operating and upgrading the System, including the personnel costs incurred by the Department and the costs of administration of the unified carrier registration agreement.

((B) Exceptions.--There shall be no fee charged under this paragraph--

((i) to any agency of the Federal Government or a State government or any political subdivision of any such government for the access to or retrieval of information and data from the Unified Carrier Registration System for its own use; or

((ii) to any representative of a motor carrier, motor private carrier, leasing company, broker, or freight forwarder (as each is defined in section 14504a) for the access to or retrieval of the individual information related to such entity from the Unified Carrier Registration System for the individual use of such entity.

((e) Application to Certain Intrastate Operations.--Nothing in this section requires the registration of a motor carrier, a motor private carrier of property, or a transporter of waste or recyclable materials operating exclusively in intrastate transportation not otherwise required to register with the Secretary under another provision of this title.''.

SEC. 4305. REGISTRATION OF MOTOR CARRIERS BY STATES.