

TO: T. G. Grumbles

FROM: M. J. Horowitz
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SUBJ: HIGHLIGHTS OF HMTA

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VISTA

interoffice
communication

As you know, Congress recently reauthorized the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act (HMTA). Here are some of the highlights:

1. The HMTA will establish registration requirements for shippers and carriers of hazardous materials. This program will be administered by DOT. The fees for this program have not been determined.

These fees will fund a public sector planning and training program for emergency response.

2. The HMTA will establish a safety permitting procedure for motor carriers of hazardous materials. Unsatisfactory carriers will not be issued these permits and shippers will be prohibited from offering hazardous materials to carriers without these permits.
3. Thirty new inspectors, ten who will be dedicated to radioactive materials, are authorized.
4. DOT will study improvements to the present placarding system and the National Academy of Sciences will study the merits of a central reporting system and computerized telecommunications center. The NAS study was the compromise reached on the Applegate Bill.

M. J. Horowitz
Michael J. Horowitz

dlj

cc: TRANSPORTATION CONTACTS

F. G. Jeanson-Aber, M. F. Ticar-Balt, R. G. Witt-Blane, K. R. Perez-Hmd, T. S. Randolph-LCCP, D. G. Stephens-LCLAB, K. C. Cash-LCVCM, H. D. Garrison-OKC, G. C. Lipps-Prem, R. T. Jackson-Austin, J. G. Farrier, J. M. Kerlegon, H. L. Duckworth, R. B. Quay, D. L. Cohen

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