

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Morning Transportation  
**Sent:** Tue 10/3/2017 2:09:10 PM  
**Subject:** POLITICO's Morning Transportation: The race to amend the Senate's self-driving car bill — DHS on alert after shooting — Independent truckers fighting ELD rule to the end

By Brianna Gurciullo | 10/03/2017 10:00 AM EDT

*With help from Tanya Snyder, Lauren Gardner and Stephanie Beasley*

**TRUCK-IT LIST:** Amendments are stacking up ahead of the Senate Commerce Committee's self-driving car bill markup Wednesday. Among the 65 first-round amendments submitted was one filed Monday by Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Okla.) on one of the most contentious issues: whether to include trucks. Commercial motor vehicles were ultimately left out of the bill (S. 1885 (115)) that was introduced last week, but Inhofe wants them in. Still, on Monday he said he knows there's "a very strong union opposition to it, because they think it'll be automated to the point that it'll get rid of all the jobs. And, if that's automation, that's automation." Advocates say truck drivers will still have a major role to play for decades to come.

**Also in the wings:** Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) said he is considering offering several safety-related amendments. "For one thing, I am deeply concerned about the preemption of state laws, like Connecticut's, that provide greater assurance for safety," he said. He added that he's in favor of keeping trucks out of the bill. Meanwhile, Sen. Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) said he's submitted amendments dealing with data collection from driverless vehicles - biometric data, energy efficiency data, etc. - "and then some language around metropolitan planning organizations utilizing open data, like Google Maps and Waze, for traffic engineering."

**Nothing to see here:** Sen. Gary Peters (D-Mich.), who co-wrote the bill with Commerce Chairman John Thune, had told Tanya last week that he didn't expect many amendments because "it's always been our intent to try to deal with everybody before the markup." Asked Monday evening if he was surprised by the number of amendments filed, he clarified: "We said we thought there was a lot of consensus on the bill, that doesn't mean [that on] every little piece of it you have 100 percent consensus." The committee will publish all amendments online Wednesday morning before the markup.

**IT'S TUESDAY:** Thanks for tuning in to POLITICO's Morning Transportation, your daily tipsheet on all things trains, planes, automobiles and ports. Send along tips, feedback and lyrics to [bgurciullo@politico.com](mailto:bgurciullo@politico.com) or [@brigurciullo](https://twitter.com/brigurciullo).

"Baby, you can drive my car / Yes, I'm gonna be a star / Baby, you can drive my car / And maybe I'll love you."

**GET LISTENING:** Follow MT's [playlist](#) on Spotify. What better way to start your day than with songs (picked by us and readers) that are all about flying, driving, commuting and sailing?

**DHS ON ALERT AFTER SHOOTING:** Following the shooting Sunday in Las Vegas that left at least 59 people dead and hundreds wounded, DHS as of Monday morning had "no information

to indicate a specific credible threat involving other public venues in the country," spokesman David Lapan said via Twitter. The department "is closely monitoring & working with our federal, state and local partners," Lapan said in a separate tweet.

**Flights affected:** McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas stopped takeoffs and landings early Monday. Some service later returned, and the airport was running normally in a few hours. Overall, the shooting forced almost two dozen flights to divert elsewhere. The airport told ABC News that at one point a "perimeter fence near the concert venue was breached by people fleeing the scene of the incident." Monday afternoon, TSA spokesman Mike England told MT that the agency had made no changes to security at the airport.

**HELP! I NEED SOMEBODY:** Independent truck drivers are trying to grab the Trump administration's attention as a December deadline to use electronic logging devices looms, your MT host reports for Pros. "They've done a good job with pulling back some really harmful regulations on the trucking industry," Collin Long, the senior director of legislative affairs for the Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association, said about the administration. "But on this one, they just haven't really latched on yet."

**Full-court press:** At the same time, OOIDA has rallied trade groups from the agriculture world to advocate for a bill (H.R. 3282 (115)) that would extend the deadline to 2019. But the American Trucking Associations, which has clashed with OOIDA over the mandate, sees little to no chance of anything changing. "This is sort of the last gasp of people wanting to not comply," said Bill Sullivan, ATA's executive vice president of advocacy.

**FOR YOUR RADAR:** Safety advocacy groups will brief reporters today on their push for revisions to the Senate's self-driving car legislation. The organizations claim the bill contains "provisions benefiting the auto industry [that] keep consumers in the dark about the limitations and performance" of self-driving vehicles. They argue that it "would unleash mass deployment of [autonomous vehicles] without essential consumer safety protections, adequate oversight and industry accountability." Blumenthal and Ed Markey (D-Mass.), both members of the Commerce Committee, will be on the call.

**WHO BUDGETED IT BETTER?** House Budget Committee Dems "unveiled a multitrillion-dollar fiscal wish list [Monday] to counter their Republican peers' budget resolution," our friends at Pro Budget & Appropriations Brief report. The Dem budget includes a so-called deficit-neutral reserve fund for "job creation through infrastructure and other investments and incentives." The Congressional Progressive Caucus also released a budget plan that "makes a down payment of \$1.9 trillion to help close the nation's infrastructure deficit" and establishes a "public-private infrastructure bank." Lawmakers offered the proposal as an amendment to the Republican House budget.

**NOT IN SLO'S BACKYARD:** Energy company Phillips 66 will drop its lawsuit challenging a California county's denial of a proposal that would have let the refiner bring millions of gallons of oil per week by train to its facility in Santa Maria, environmentalists who opposed it said Monday. The county's decision to reject the project came after the Surface Transportation Board last year declined to prevent another California city from denying Valero Energy's bid to expand

crude-by-rail operations. The San Luis Obispo Tribune [reports](#) that the parties reached a settlement, which must be approved by a court.

**ON-TIME ARRIVAL:** The California High-Speed Rail Authority said Monday that it had spent over \$2.55 billion in federal funding before a Sept. 30 deadline set by a 2009 law. The authority said the money went toward "advanced planning, design and environmental outreach," and that it "helped to create thousands of new jobs."

**MT MAILBAG:** Arizona's Republican senators wrote to the U.S. International Trade Commission late last week, saying that as the agency considers Boeing's case against Bombardier, it should "avoid levying unnecessary or politically motivated penalties that could have negative impacts on aerospace employees, U.S. air carriers and airline consumers." As Pro Trade's Adam Behsudi [reports](#), Bombardier's biggest plane service center is in Tucson, Ariz. "The Commerce Department last week slapped a preliminary countervailing duty of nearly 220 percent on imports of Bombardier's new C-Series aircraft," Adam writes. "But duties won't take effect permanently unless the ITC makes a final determination that imports of the jets would cause harm to U.S. workers."

**OFF YOU GO:** The White House sent to the Senate on Monday the nomination of Diana Furchtgott-Roth to be assistant secretary for research and technology at DOT. Furchtgott-Roth is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research and the director of its Economics21 project. She was the Department of Labor's chief economist when Elaine Chao was Labor secretary.

**SHIFTING GEARS:** Terry Van Doren will be responsible for transportation, energy and agriculture issues at the office of Senate Majority Leader [Mitch McConnell](#), per [Huddle](#). ... Meanwhile, Uber's manager for Northern Europe is stepping down, our POLITICO colleagues across the Atlantic [report](#). Jo Bertram was in charge of Uber's services in London, where the company is appealing a local agency's decision to effectively ban its ride-hailing operations.

**SLICE OF PI:** Tyler Roberts has left the office of Sen. [Dan Sullivan](#) (R-Alaska), where he served as a legislative assistant, to be a vice president at Venn Strategies and lobby for the Rail Security Alliance, among other clients, our friends at POLITICO Influence [report](#).

**SWIMMING IN THE DEEP END OF THE TRANSPO GENE POOL:** Christine Brennan, press secretary for Delaware Sen. [Tom Carper](#), the top Democrat on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, emails MT: "Rebecca Higgins, a professional staff member on EPW who handles transportation and infrastructure issues, and her husband Trevor Higgins, a legislative aide for Senator [\[Dianne\] Feinstein](#) who also handles transportation issues, welcomed their third child, a baby girl - Annabelle Dover Higgins - on Friday morning."

#### **THE AUTOBAHN:**

- "Brexit helps push U.K. airline Monarch into bankruptcy." [POLITICO Europe](#).

- "Ohio River closed to shipping after lock failure: industry group." [Reuters](#).

- "Putting the S in Tesla." [Bloomberg Gadfly](#).
- "U.S. auto makers step up plans for electric vehicles." [The Wall Street Journal](#).
- "Uber's internal investigation into allegedly stolen trade secrets was just made public." [BuzzFeed News](#).
- "Interior watchdog opens investigation into Zinke's travel." [POLITICO](#).
- "First passenger jet configured for cargo unveiled in Alaska." [The Associated Press](#).
- "Rio Tinto steams ahead with first driverless ore train." [The Wall Street Journal](#).
- "Takata says \$1.6 billion KSS deal to be signed in within two weeks." [Reuters](#).

**THE COUNTDOWN:** DOT appropriations run out in 67 days. The FAA reauthorization expires in 180 days. Highway and transit policy is up for renewal in 1,094 days.

*To view online:*

<http://www.politico.com/tipsheets/morning-transportation/2017/10/03/the-race-to-amend-the-senates-self-driving-car-bill-222618>

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**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**From:** Morning Score  
**Sent:** Tue 11/28/2017 3:04:11 PM  
**Subject:** POLITICO's Morning Score: Moore buried under TV ad barrage — Gutierrez won't seek reelection, sources say — Tax reform ads fly

By Maggie Sevens | 11/28/2017 10:00 AM EDT

*With Zach Montellaro, Elena Schneider*

*The following newsletter is an abridged version of Campaign Pro's Morning Score. For an earlier morning read on exponentially more races - and for a more comprehensive aggregation of the day's most important campaign news - sign up for Campaign Pro today. (<http://www.politicopro.com/proinfo>)*

**MOORE PROBLEMS - "Moore buried under TV ad barrage," by POLITICO's Scott Bland and Daniel Strauss:** "Doug Jones and Roy Moore both released new television ads on Monday. But many Alabama voters will see only one of them. That's because of the massive disparity in TV ad spending between the two candidates in the Alabama special election to a Senate seat, where Jones, the Democratic candidate, is outspending Moore roughly 7-to-1. ... Fueled by millions of online dollars pouring in to defeat Moore, Jones' campaign has flooded the airwaves with over \$5.6 million of TV ads overall in the general election campaign. Moore has answered with about \$800,000 in ad spending, according to Advertising Analytics."

"Jones' campaign built a big financial advantage even before women came forward accusing Moore of sexual misconduct in early November. ... A new campaign finance report from ActBlue, the widely used Democratic digital fundraising platform, shows Jones raised nearly \$2.9 million online in October alone. But the firestorm that ensued after numerous allegations surfaced against Moore galvanized even more financial support for Jones, giving him the resources to relentlessly pound Moore on-air as a child predator." **Full story [here](#).**

**- Pro-Moore super PAC backed by Uihlein:** A pop-up super PAC that has spent six figures supporting Moore in recent months received the majority of its funds from Wisconsin-based conservative megadonor Richard Uihlein, according to a [new FEC filing](#). The PAC, called Proven Conservative PAC, has spent \$147,649 since being formed in August and received \$100,000 from Uihlein. One of Uihlein's donations came on Nov. 22, more than a week after the first allegations of sexual misconduct against Moore surfaced, according to the new disclosure.

**RETIREMENT ALERT - Gutierrez won't seek reelection, via POLITICO Illinois' Natasha Korecki:** "Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-Ill.) a leading national voice on immigration reform, will not seek reelection and is expected to announce his decision [this] morning, three Democratic sources with knowledge of the decision told POLITICO. Gutierrez is expected to announce he's withdrawing his nominating petitions [today]."

"The sources say that former Chicago mayoral candidate Jesus 'Chuy' Garcia will begin circulating petitions for Gutierrez's post. Gutierrez's spokesman, Douglas Rivlin, said he couldn't comment." **Full story [here](#).**

**AIR WAR - Tax reform ads fly ahead of votes this week:** A slew of liberal and conservative groups are out with television ads pressuring senators ahead of this week's Senate votes on tax reform. The DSCC is airing an ad featuring families receiving notices saying their tax bill is going up. "How much will the Republican tax scam cost you?" the ad's narrator asks after the spot notes the elimination of the state and local tax, student loan and medical deductions. **Watch it [here](#).**

**- The Chamber of Commerce airs holiday-themed spots in three states:** The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is up with holiday-themed radio ads pressuring three GOP senators to support the bill: Maine Sen. Susan Collins, Montana Sen. Steve Daines and Wisconsin Sen. Ron Johnson. "What's the best gift [the senator] can give this holiday season?" the narrator of the 60-second spots asks. "The gift of tax relief." **Listen to the ads [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).**

**- Business for Responsible Tax Reform pressures Corker:** Business for Responsible Tax Reform is up with a 30-second ad targeting Tennessee Sen. Bob Corker that notes the tax reform bill increases the deficit. **Watch the ad [here](#).**

**- Not One Penny targets Trump:** Not One Penny, a coalition of Democratic groups, is out with a television ad set to air during "Fox and Friends." The ad notes President Donald Trump's frequent Twitter messages and challenges him to tweet about tax breaks for golf course owners. **Watch the spot [here](#).**

**- AAN adds \$2.5 million in TV, digital ads on tax reform:** American Action Network is out with a \$2.5 million TV and digital ad effort, thanking GOP House members in 29 House districts who voted for the Republican tax bill. The ad will air in largely battleground seats. **Check out the full list of districts [here](#). Watch the ad [here](#).**

**- National Immigration Forum launches DACA ad:** The National Immigration Forum is spending five figures to run digital ads in five states and D.C. criticizing Republicans on DACA. The ads focus on a young, undocumented immigrant named Bernardo Castro. **More [here](#).**

**Days until the 2018 election: 343**

Thanks for joining us! You can email tips to the Campaign Pro team at [sbland@politico.com](mailto:sbland@politico.com), [eschneider@politico.com](mailto:eschneider@politico.com), [krobillard@politico.com](mailto:krobillard@politico.com), [dstrauss@politico.com](mailto:dstrauss@politico.com) and [mseverns@politico.com](mailto:mseverns@politico.com).

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**Playbook Interview with Marco Rubio** - Join POLITICO Playbook Co-authors Anna Palmer and Jake Sherman for a Playbook Interview with Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.) on end-of-year Senate priorities, policy, politics and the news of the day. **Nov. 29 - Doors open 8:00 a.m. - *The Liaison Capitol Hill*. RSVP: [here](#).**

**LONG-SHOT BID - "Former Kelly aide to mount last-minute Alabama Senate bid against Moore,"** by POLITICO's Cristiano Lima: "A former top aide to White House chief of staff John Kelly intends to launch a last-minute write-in campaign in the race for Alabama's open Senate seat. Retired Marine Col. Lee Busby, 60, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., said Monday he plans to challenge Democratic candidate Doug Jones and embattled Republican Roy Moore for the state's open seat. He also launched a bare-bones website counting down to the Dec. 12 special election." **Full story** [here](#).

**MOORE ON THOSE ADS - Moore denies allegations in new TV ad:** "A new ad announced by Alabama Republican Roy Moore's campaign says the accusations that he pursued multiple women when they were teenagers and he was in his 30s are 'false allegations,'" Strauss reports. **Full story** [here](#). **And read about Jones' latest ad** [here](#).

**- Pro-Jones super PAC dropped \$1 million over last weekend:** "Highway 31, the super PAC supporting Democrat Doug Jones in the Alabama Senate race, has disclosed spending another \$1.1 million on ads boosting the candidate and hitting Republican Roy Moore," reports Strauss. **Full story** [here](#).

**NEW ON THE AIRWAVES - Pittenger talks 'War on Christmas' in TV ad:** North Carolina Rep. Robert Pittenger is out with a new TV and digital ad, which started airing over Thanksgiving weekend, about Christmas. "Christmas - a time we honor the birth of Jesus Christ, yet some choose political correctness, attacking our faith and values, refusing to say 'Merry Christmas,'" the ad's narrator says. "Let's join together to honor the birth of Jesus Christ and Christmas traditions." Pittenger, directly addressing the camera, concludes: "I've dedicated my life to sharing God's love through Jesus Christ. Let's end political correctness and put the true meaning of Christ back into Christmas." Pittenger is up against a well-funded primary and general election opponent, both of whom outraised him last quarter. Mark Harris, a pastor who nearly beat him in a primary in 2016, is challenging him again. **Watch the ad** [here](#).

**- American Chemistry Council's new spot backs Barrasso:** The American Chemistry Council's new ad praises Sen. John Barrasso as "Wyoming's conservative force." **Watch it** [here](#).

**SOMETHING TO WATCH - "Puerto Ricans could transform Florida politics, and parties are taking notice,"** by NBC News' Carmen Sesin: "So far, over 189,000 Puerto Ricans have migrated to the state after the hurricane left unimaginable destruction throughout the island. Planes arriving from Puerto Rico remain full and some estimate as many as half a million people will eventually make their way to Florida. Although some, particularly the older generations, will eventually return to the island, experts believe most will remain here. Central Florida is their preferred destination, but areas like South Florida and Tampa are also seeing an influx of Puerto Ricans." **Full story** [here](#).

**GETTING THE NOD - Club for Growth PAC backs Fulcher in ID-01 primary:** "The Club for Growth PAC is endorsing former state Sen. Russ Fulcher in the crowded Republican primary to replace Idaho Rep. Raúl Labrador, who's running for governor. ... Fulcher [initially launched a gubernatorial bid](#) but dropped out in June and endorsed Labrador. Fulcher, who also ran for governor in 2014, led the pack of GOP candidates in fundraising last quarter, bringing in more

than \$100,000." [Full story.](#)

**2018 WATCH - "Virginia Republicans anticipating state Del. Nick Freitas to announce run for U.S. Senate," by the Richmond Times-Dispatch's Patrick Wilson:** "Virginia Republicans are anticipating that a state lawmaker will join the GOP primary race for a chance to challenge U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., next year, according to GOP insiders. The new contender would be Del. Nicholas J. Freitas, R-Culpeper, an Iraq combat veteran first elected to the General Assembly in 2015 and easily reelected this year. Freitas would join Corey Stewart, chairman of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors, in seeking the GOP nomination." [Full story.](#)

**QUOTE OF THE DAY:** "This so-called off-the-record conversation was the essence of a scheme to deceive and embarrass us," Washington Post Executive Editor Marty Baron [said](#), explaining why the newspaper published an off-the-record exchange with a woman who appears to have tried to scam the paper with a false Roy Moore allegation while acting on behalf of the conservative group Project Veritas.

*To view online:*

<https://www.politico.com/newsletters/morning-score/2017/11/28/moore-buried-under-tv-ad-barrage-033970>

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