



February 21, 2025

The Honorable Kevin Kiley  
2445 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for the Modern Worker Empowerment Act

Dear Congressman Kiley:

On behalf of the Intermodal Association of North America (IANA), a leading transportation trade association representing the combined interests of the intermodal freight industry, I am writing to express our support for the Modern Worker Empowerment Act (H.R. 1319).

IANA represents more than 1,000 corporate members, including railroads, ocean carriers, ports, intermodal truckers and over-the-road highway carriers, intermodal marketing and logistic companies, and suppliers to the industry. IANA's associate (non-voting) members include shippers (defined as the beneficial owners of the freight to be shipped), academic institutions, government entities, and non-profit trade associations.

For decades, the prevailing business model for intermodal trucking companies that transport freight has involved the use of independent contractors. In fact, over 80 percent of intermodal trucking companies have used owner-operators. The independent contractor business model is essential to the intermodal industry, offering operational and financial flexibility to motor carriers, allowing them to adapt and respond to natural elasticity and volatility in the cargo transportation market. Attempts to eliminate or restrict the independent contractor model would have a negative effect not only on the intermodal industry, but the entire supply chain.

Each owner-operator makes a conscious decision to remain an independent contractor, but also has the freedom and ability to secure full-time employment in the trucking industry at any time. By tailoring schedules and opportunities to accommodate individual needs, owner-operators provide safe, efficient, and cost-effective service that contributes to our nation's economic growth.

The Modern Worker Empowerment Act offers much-needed certainty, clarity, and consistency to the classification of independent contractors, preserving this critical business model that has served both the industry and drivers well for over 40 years.

We applaud your leadership and would be pleased to serve as a resource on this important issue. I can be reached at [areinke@intermodal.org](mailto:areinke@intermodal.org) or 301-982-3400.

Sincerely,

Anne Reinke  
President and CEO  
Intermodal Association of North America

CC: Modern Worker Empowerment Act Co-Sponsors