



## RESOLUTION 2025-14

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, TEXAS, OPPOSING ALL FEDERAL LEGISLATION THAT INCREASES MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE COMMERCIAL TRUCK SIZE OR WEIGHT; FINDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF**

**WHEREAS**, the City of La Porte is concerned with the public safety and welfare of residents and visitors to our community and the cost, quality, and reliability of the City's infrastructure specifically local bridges; and

**WHEREAS**, longer double-trailer commercial trucks across the National Highway System would further endanger motorists and the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) concluded that multi-trailer trucks have an 11-percent higher fatal crash rate than single-trailer trucks; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing heavier or longer trucks on the National Highway System would threaten the safety of the traveling public because heavier and longer trucks would be more difficult to control, increase wear and tear on truck safety systems such as brakes, steering, and tires, and increase crash severity; and

**WHEREAS**, La Porte is concerned with the safety of its residents and visitors who travel the same roads and highways as these bigger and heavier trucks; and,

**WHEREAS**, according to the most recent data by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), there was a 41.4% increase in fatal crashes involving commercial trucks in Texas between 2012 to 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, previously proposed federal legislation to increase maximum allowable truck size and weight were unfunded mandates leaving local municipalities like La Porte and its taxpayers to bear the financial burden for infrastructure damage caused by these bigger and heavier trucks; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of Texas has 1,827 local bridges at risk with 91,000-pound trucks with a replacement cost of \$972,982,248; and,

**WHEREAS**, La Porte residents are highly dependent on multiple roadways all of which are already heavily impacted by truck size and weight including I-10, Texas State Highway 146 and Texas State Highway 225; and,

**WHEREAS**, La Porte elected and professional officials realize economic vitality is enhanced by traffic mitigation strategies and understand that truck traffic will end up on local roads in transit, as well.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, TEXAS, THAT the City of La Porte, Texas, opposes any legislation that increases maximum allowable truck size or weight at the federal level and encourages our federal delegation to oppose any and all current and future related legislation.**

**PASSED and APPROVED** this, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

**CITY OF LA PORTE, TEXAS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Helton, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lee Woodward, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clark T. Askins, City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandon Lunsford, Councilperson At-Large A

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brent McCaulley, Councilperson At-Large Position B

Absent  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mandi Williams, Councilperson District 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chuck Engelken, Mayor Pro Tem, Councilperson District 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Bentley, Councilperson District 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Guerra, Councilperson District 4

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay Martin, Councilperson District 5

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robbie McLarrin, Councilperson District 6



# City of La Porte

Established 1892

Office of the Mayor  
Rick Helton

The City of La Porte is rich in history and built on community, delivering a safe and attractive environment for all walks of life.

May 12, 2025

The Honorable John Cornyn, III  
United States Senate  
517 Hart Senate Office  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn,

On behalf of the citizens of La Porte, we stand with the National League of Cities, local elected officials, law enforcement, and emergency responders from across the state of Texas in opposing all federal legislation to increase truck size and weight on our nation's highways. An increase in truck size and weights places not only our fellow Texans in danger but also our community's infrastructure.

Please find enclosed City of La Porte Resolution 2025-14 indicating La Porte's opposition to any increase in truck size and weight. We respectfully request you oppose this legislation should it come before you in the future.

Sincerely,

Rick Helton  
Mayor

RH/lw

Enclosure

cc: Scott Pullig, Chief of Police  
Chris Pettis, Fire Chief  
Planning and Development Director Ryan Hvitlok  
Public Works Director Ray Mayo



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May 12, 2025

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
United States Senate  
167 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cruz,

On behalf of the citizens of La Porte, we stand with the National League of Cities, local elected officials, law enforcement, and emergency responders from across the state of Texas in opposing all federal legislation to increase truck size and weight on our nation's highways. An increase in truck size and weights places not only our fellow Texans in danger but also our community's infrastructure.

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May 12, 2025

The Honorable Brian Babin  
United States House of Representatives  
2236 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Babin,

On behalf of the citizens of La Porte, we stand with the National League of Cities, local elected officials, law enforcement, and emergency responders from across the state of Texas in opposing all federal legislation to increase truck size and weight on our nation's highways. An increase in truck size and weights places not only our fellow Texans in danger but also our community's infrastructure.

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