

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee  
Member Day

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Time: 10:30am

Room: 2165 Rayburn House Office Building

Congresswoman Mary E. Miller (IL-15)

### **Remarks**

- Thank you Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen for hosting this Member Day.
- I come representing Central Illinois and its elevated position as the crossroads to the West.
- As many know, Central Illinois is a major hub for interstate commerce – propelled mainly by a vibrant trucking industry.
  - Looking at a combined total of all commercial shipments, Illinois is the third busiest freight state when measured by value, and fourth when measured by tonnage according to DOT.

- o Illinois' trucking industry alone is expected to reach over \$73 billion in market value.
- Therefore, it is all the more imperative that our roads are kept safe, secure, and regulated.
- Congress can start this effort by restricting who can drive – making sure it's only those who are here legally and can speak English.
- Multiple sanctuary states, including my home state of Illinois, are issuing driver's licenses and CDLs to illegals. This creates an extreme level of risk for all those on the road.
- Many of these sanctuary states also allow illegals to obtain a license with little or no English proficiency, even allowing applicants to use translators.
- The extent of this broken system was made clear last year when an Illinois-based company, JKC Trucking, told Fox

News about the rampant scheme of illegal truckers on American roads. The company showed how the abuse of the CDL licensing process not only leads to decreased safety, but also leads to the closure of many American trucking businesses because they are unable to compete against illegal companies and illegal drivers.

- Considering this ongoing public safety crisis, and having received numerous inquiries from my constituents about road safety, I have introduced H.R. 5330, *the SAFE Driving Laws Act*.
- The bill would withhold transportation funds from States that grant driver's licenses to illegals and fail to share information about criminal aliens with federal immigration authorities.
- Furthermore, this bill clearly specifies that both standard driver's licenses and commercial driver's licenses are to be

withheld from illegal immigrants. This language creates clarity that the States are responsible for CDLs issuance, and that they take a part of responsibility when certifying CDLs.

- Lastly, the bill champions transparency by requiring that the Secretaries of DHS and DOT maintain a public database that shows the compliance status of each State.
- This is to ensure that sanctuary governors can't hide behind delayed numbers - they must cooperate and if they don't, we all will know.
- Mr. Chairman, as your committee continues its work to protect the American people on the roadways, I request that you include my bill's language into the Surface Transportation Reauthorization.
- I look forward to working with this committee to make America's roads safe and secure.

- Thank you for your time and I yield back.