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U.S. Sens. Baldwin and Moran: Introduce bipartisan legislation to promote more women in trucking

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Jerry Moran (R-KS), members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, today introduced the *Promoting Women in Trucking Workforce Act*.

Currently, women make up 47 percent of the United States' labor force, yet represent 24 percent of America's trucking workforce and only about seven percent of drivers. This legislation would support women in the trucking industry and would establish a Women of Trucking Advisory Board.

"In Wisconsin, we make things, and we need to ensure we have a strong workforce to transport our goods to market," **said Senator Baldwin**. "Women currently make up less than ten percent of the truck driving workforce, and removing the barriers that get in the way of women pursuing and retaining careers in trucking is key. I'm proud to lead this bipartisan effort with Senator Moran because more job opportunities for Wisconsin women will lead to more economic security for working families."

"As the trucking industry continues to face a driver shortage, we need to examine new ways to recruit and retain drivers that are delivering Kansas goods across the country," **said Senator Moran.** "Because women are substantially underrepresented in the trucking industry, Congress should explore every opportunity to encourage and support the pursuit of careers in trucking by women. I'm proud to introduce this bipartisan and sensible bill with Sen. Baldwin that will

lead to new job opportunities for women and increase equality for women already in the trucking industry."

The *Promoting Women in Trucking Workforce* would direct the administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to establish a "Women of Trucking Advisory Board." Under this bill, the board would identify barriers to entry for women in the trucking industry, work across organizations and companies to coordinate formal education and training programs and help identify and establish training and mentorship programs for women in the industry. The legislation also requires the FMCSA Administrator to submit a report to Congress on the board's findings and recommendations.

This legislation is supported by the Women in Trucking Association and the American Trucking Association.

"By creating an advisory board to utilize the expertise and resources of the Federal Motor Carrier Administration and the members of the board, we can increase the opportunities for women as drivers, technicians, owners, trainers and in other relevant career roles," **said Women in Truck Association President and CEO Ellen Voie**. "I look forward to working with you and your office (Sens. Moran and Baldwin) in advancing this bill."

"On behalf of the American Trucking Association, I write to express thanks and support for the introduction of the *Promoting Women in Trucking Workforce Act,"* **said American Trucking Association President and CEO Chris Spear**. "Your (Sens. Moran and Baldwin) thoughtful and timely legislation brings important attention and focus to the advancement of female representation and participation in trucking."

An online version of this release is available here.