

# Ohio AgriBusiness Association



11-5804-TR-EHS

Robert Marvin  
Director, Transportation Department  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Fax # 614-466-2753

Dear Director Marvin,

It appears that Ohio's crop harvest will extend into at least the first few weeks of December and perhaps longer this year. This is due to unpredictable weather factors, including a much wetter than normal spring that delayed planting and a wet fall that has compounded an already delayed harvest. As you know, in Ohio, private motor carriers "engaged in the transportation of farm supplies to the farm or farm products from farm to market" are exempt from Hours-of-Service during the "planting and harvesting season" which is designated as "March first through November thirtieth of each year" (please see the attached sheet with the applicable regulations.)

On behalf of Ohio's agribusiness industry, the Ohio AgriBusiness Association would like to request an extension of the exemption of Hours-of-Service for agricultural operations until such time harvest can be completed. Without the exemption drivers are limited to working only 60 hours per week and only 12 hours per day. Farmers, cooperatives and other agribusinesses need this extension to get their crop harvested and to market as quickly as possible. The agricultural industry has already faced a very stressful growing season, the assurance that they continue to have the Hours-of-Service exemption through the end of this year's harvest will be one less worry as they work to harvest and market their crop.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and I welcome any questions or concerns you may have regarding this request. You can contact me at [chenney@oaba.net](mailto:chenney@oaba.net) or 614-326-7520.

Sincerely,

Christopher Henney  
President and CEO

Herb Mayer, OABA Chairman

Enclosure

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