



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

March 9, 2017

Mr. Raymond Palacios, Jr.  
Chairman  
Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Board  
4000 Jackson Avenue  
Austin, Texas 78731

Dear Chairman Palacios:

Livestock producers in Carson, Gray, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Potter, Roberts and Wheeler counties are experiencing forage and hay shortages due to the ongoing disaster caused by wildfires. To facilitate the transportation and to ensure that state regulation is not an unnecessary barrier to the emergency transport of hay, and pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 418.016, I hereby direct you to suspend the permitting requirements and legal height restriction for cylindrical (round) hay bales, as well as associated permit fees, for carriers transporting round bales of hay to these counties. This authorization applies to Carson, Gray, Hemphill, Ochiltree, Potter, Roberts and Wheeler counties and any Texas county through which transport is necessary to reach the disaster response area.

To ensure the safety of the traveling public, please require carriers transporting loads exceeding 14 feet in height to contact the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Motor Carrier Division at (800) 299-1700 during regular business hours to receive expedited routing. All other legal requirements, including licensing, registration, insurance and safety, remain in place. Unless otherwise extended, this waiver expires at midnight on March 31, 2017.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

Greg Abbott  
Governor

GA:sck