



ADAM SMITH

WASHINGTON'S 9TH DISTRICT

H.R. 5840 Transportation Security Screening Modernization Act

Rep. Adam Smith (WA-09)

Background: Many transportation workers across the country are required by law to hold multiple Transportation Security Administration (TSA) credentials, including the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) and the Hazardous Materials Endorsement (HME). With each of these credentials having varying expiration dates and fees, workers end up spending a significant amount of time and money keeping their credentials up to date.

The Transportation Security Screening Modernization Act streamlines the procedures for enrollment in the security threat assessment programs administered by TSA, including TWIC and HME programs. The bill would create efficiencies for both the government and supply chain workers by harmonizing programs that require the same background check, such as the TWIC and HME programs. America's supply chain workers share the common burden of redundant background checks and duplicative fees that make it challenging and onerous to obtain the security credentials necessary for employment.

This bill would address this burden and eliminate these redundancies by allowing individuals to apply valid background checks to multiple TSA-managed credentialing programs, ultimately reducing costs and hassle for users such as essential workers like truck drivers, pipeline operators, longshore workers, and warehouse managers, among many others, who must obtain these credentials as a condition of employment.

The Transportation Security Screening Modernization Act would require the agency to modify the process and fees associated with applying for or renewing certain TSA credentials by:

- Requiring TSA to create one streamlined application and renewal process for transportation workers applying for more than one credential (TWIC and HME)
- Requiring TSA to determine a reduced fee structure for transportation workers applying for or renewing multiple credentials (TWIC and HME)

Importantly, this legislation does not make any modifications to the back-end security assessment conducted on individual applicants, ensuring that applicants must undergo the same level of review as they do under current law. This bill simply modernizes the consumer-facing applicant process to reduce the burden on American transportation workers who must maintain more than one TSA credential.

This legislation is being co-led by Reps. Adam Smith (D-WA), Garrett Graves (R-LA), Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Mark Green (R-TN), Dina Titus (D-NV), and Michael Guest (R-MS).

Endorsements: Teamsters; Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO; The American Trucking Association, Washington State Labor Council and over 150 other transportation and trucking industry associations.