Policy Resolution PR-3-12
Title: Actions to Reduce Impediments to Interstate Commerce
Harmonizing Requirements for Truck Permits

WHEREAS, The nation’s highway system is central to economic growth, job creation and the performance of the U.S. economy, and a key contributor to American competitiveness in the global marketplace;

WHEREAS, Highways the volume of freight on highways is large and growing;

WHEREAS, Trip time and reliability are critical in today’s “just-in-time” economy;

WHEREAS, It is essential that steps be taken to guarantee that the movement of freight on highways is as efficient as possible;

WHEREAS, Measures to improve the efficiency of freight transportation require close collaboration between government and business;

WHEREAS, States are responsible for the issuance of permits to allow the movement of shipments that exceed standard limits for weight or dimension;

WHEREAS, These shipments have grown in number and importance in recent years, especially in sectors critical to security and the growth of the economy;

WHEREAS, Unintended and unnecessary differences in requirements for oversize/overweight permits can result in delays to the industry resulting in increased product cost to the end user;

WHEREAS, Unintended and unnecessary differences in requirements for oversize/overweight permits can result in delays in the delivery of emergency response and relief shipments;

WHEREAS, Since 1937, the AASHTO Subcommittee on Highway Transport has maintained the Guide for Vehicle Weights and Dimensions;

WHEREAS, The Subcommittee on Highway Transport has identified certain truck permit procedures and requirements that can be harmonized among states without compromising safety or infrastructure preservation;

WHEREAS, Harmonizing truck permit requirements among states will improve customer service, reduce costs, and increase efficiency in state government; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED That AASHTO member states are committed to harmonizing permit procedures and requirements between states, among states in regions, and on multi-state corridors; and, be it further

RESOLVED That by this resolution the AASHTO Board of Directors establishes a truck oversize/overweight permit harmonization initiative to focus initially on the following requirement categories (consistent with the AASHTO Guide for Vehicle Weights and Dimensions):

- Escort Requirements
- Warning Flags
- Warning Lights
- Warning Signs
- Days and Hours of Operation, and be it further

RESOLVED That the Subcommittee on Highway Transport will identify additional candidates for truck oversize/overweight permit harmonization, coordinate with private sector shippers and carriers, and present additional initiatives to SCOH for submission to the AASHTO Board of Directors for implementation.