

**OVERSIGHT OF THE INTERSTATE  
COMMERCE COMMISSION:  
HEARING; ONE HUNDRED THIRD  
CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION,  
JULY 12, 1994; S. HRG. 103-884**

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S. HRG. 103-884

**OVERSIGHT OF THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE  
COMMISSION**

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oversight of the Interstate Commerc...

**HEARING**  
BEFORE THE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,  
SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION  
UNITED STATES SENATE  
ONE HUNDRED THIRD CONGRESS  
SECOND SESSION

JULY 12, 1994

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# OVERSIGHT OF THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 1994

U.S. SENATE,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION,  
*Washington, DC.*

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:35 a.m., in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building, Hon. J. James Exon (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

Staff members assigned to this hearing: Clyde J. Hart, Jr., senior counsel, and William Clyburn, Jr., staff counsel; and Gerri Lynn Hall, minority professional staff member.

## OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR EXON

Senator EXON. The committee please will come to order.

I am pleased to welcome several distinguished panels and witnesses to the Senate Surface Transportation Subcommittee. Today, the committee will exercise its oversight responsibilities with regard to the Interstate Commerce Commission, to consider the Trucking Regulatory Reform Act, which Senator Packwood and I introduced prior to the July 4 recess, and to review the recent vote by the U.S. Senate to preempt intrastate economic regulations of most trucking firms.

The American transportation system is the envy of the world. It moves goods swiftly and safely across this vast Nation. In a real sense, our great Nation is the United States of Mobility. The ability to move people, goods, and commodities efficiently help make the United States the superpower that it is.

Since 1887, the Interstate Commerce Commission has played an important role in the smooth operations of the American transportation system. It has protected the consumers and competition from being crushed by brute economic power. It has been a fair forum, where transportation disputes are settled and the rules are made. It has been the agency which assures that the interstate motor carriers have insurance and meet safety fitness requirements before beginning their interstate operations. It assures that mergers and the transportation industry serve the public interest, and that the rights of working men and women in the transportation industry are protected.

For rural America, the ICC has been the independent check against the arbitrary loss of rail service. At a recent proceeding in Omaha, the ICC provided a forum to make concerns known about the availability of train cars. And, in this Congress, both Houses