



ISSUE DIGEST

Economic Development

Motorcoach services create economic stimulus in communities both large and small by providing jobs, bringing tourism dollars as well as creating transportation options for the traveling public. The industry helps drive communities by creating employment, increasing income and sales tax revenue, and by offering mass transportation to important destinations such as hospitals, colleges, airports, and government centers at little or no cost to the tax payers. Burdening our services through increased taxes or fees can impact businesses that depend on tourism, travel, or a mobile workforce.

- **Fuel Tax Exemption:** maintain, treat us like transit
- **Charter Rule:** public private partnerships, private buses definition and coordination

Network of Services

Motorcoach services connect communities, provide airport, bus and rail access to intercity services, commuter programs and increase the return on investment for public infrastructure. As communities look for ways to move more people and goods without building new roads motorcoaches provide flexible, convenient and cost effective transportation to develop new routes and schedules. Private operators provide services which include intercity and regional connector buses, airport shuttle, commuter and transit services, special needs, ADA paratransit, and medical vans with fixed route, bus rapid transit, express, and demand responsive services. These services connect people with schools, doctors, relatives, government services and work as well as travel and tour opportunities.

- **Tolling, HOV, and Congestion Mitigation:** treat private buses the same as transit
- **Intermodal Facility Development:** access and interconnectivity, shared information
- **Rural Connectors and Private Match:** continue program use private investment to match public funds
- **ADA Access for Over the Road Buses:** continue grant program, assess success
- **Axle weights:** continue exemption

Motorcoach Operations Safety & Security

Motorcoaches are the safest form of ground transportation. Operators, manufacturers and government regulators work to develop safety improvements based on sound science and best practices. Hours of service, axle weights, driver training and occupant protection are addressed as part of our initiative to keep motorcoaches the safest mode of transportation

- **Occupant Safety:** testing, seatbelts and enforcement

Environmental Travel Choice

Motorcoach travel is energy efficient and cleaner than other ground transportation alternatives. The benefits of intercity, commuter and tour travel by motorcoach help keep people moving and reduce the impact of travel on the environment. Motorcoaches on average achieved more than 8 times the efficiency of a single passenger automobile and more than 5 times the efficiency of a transit bus, at 210 passenger miles per gallon. In addition motorcoaches are one of the most carbon efficient forms of transportation emitting only 56 grams per passenger mile compared to 371 grams for a single occupancy vehicle. It is anticipated that with new 2007 engine standards emissions levels will improve by another 90%.

- **Inclusion in Green Transportation Initiatives;** cap and trade or tax credits, GHG reduction

