



Motorcoaches will loop past U.S. Capitol with Rolling Awareness Campaign to showcase ways bus industry moves America

(Washington, DC – April 24, 2020) Hundreds of motorcoaches representing 3,000 motorcoach companies across the United States and their 100,000 employees will be rolling into the nation’s capital on May 13 to support awareness of the industry’s role as a critical component of the country’s infrastructure. Motorcoaches do everything from evacuating victims of hurricanes and wildfires to transporting thousands America’s military troops all around the nation. Under the banner, Motorcoach Rolling for Awareness, these vehicles will circle Washington, D.C. as a moving rally, bearing messages that explain the importance of the industry and ask Congress and the White House to extend economic relief to motorcoach companies. The event is jointly organized by the American Bus Association and the United Motorcoach Association.

This is a positive event showcasing how the nation’s motorcoaches move America.

“Our ask is simple,” Jeff Polzien of Red Carpet Charters said. “The U.S motorcoach industry is requesting Congress put motorcoaches back on the road by making available \$10 billion in grants for operational and payroll assistance and \$5 billion in long-term zero percent interest rate loans to the industry, ensuring these monies are available immediately and easily accessible. Our businesses need a lifeline so we can be there when the country needs us next.” Polzien is chairman of the United Motorcoach Association.

“The current economic remedies available to small businesses don’t address sectors like ours that will take much longer to recover from the current crisis. Airlines, Amtrak and transits have received more than \$75 billion prop up these industries,” said Peter Pantuso, President & CEO of the American Bus Association. “Of the 3,000 bus and motorcoach companies in the United States, 90 percent are small, family-owned business who have had to close their businesses during the COVID-19 crisis. By having to shut their doors while no one is traveling, nearly 100,000 employees, which include drivers, cleaners, maintenance and repair, administrative and safety personnel, are now without incomes.”

These vehicles will share messages to underscore the many ways motorcoaches help move America:

- Military transports across the nation for troops in all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Evacuations of Americans from wildfires, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods
- Connecting people to jobs with commuters and employee shuttles
- Connecting rural America to urban centers and to other modes of transportation
- Providing school transportation as well as sports and educational trips
- Reducing congestion by taking 36 cars off the road for each coach.

Providing vital services to the entire transportation network when other modes are inoperable The event will stage at DC's Audi Field, south of the U.S. Capitol, and motorcoaches will begin rolling at 10:30 a.m.

About the American Bus Association

The American Bus Association (ABA) is the trade organization of the intercity bus industry, with more than 1,000 motorcoach and tour company members in the United States and Canada. Its members operate charters, tours, regular route service, commuters, airport express, special operations and contract services. Another 2,800 members are travel and tourism organizations and suppliers of bus products and services who work in partnership with the North American motorcoach industry. Go to www.buses.org to learn more.

About the United Motorcoach Association

The United Motorcoach Association is the nation's largest organization exclusively protecting and promoting the interests and welfare of privately-owned bus and motorcoach companies. Members include motorcoach owners and industry suppliers. For more information about UMA, upcoming events, membership, and important legislative information, please visit www.uma.org.

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