

2019 Current Fiscal Year Report: Household Goods Consumer Protection Working Group

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of Transportation		2019	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Household Goods Consumer Protection Working Group		2607	
4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	10/13/2016	10/13/2018	10/13/2018
8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date	
Yes	Pub. L. 114-94	10/13/2018	
9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Terminate	No	Not Applicable	
11. Establishment Authority	Statutory (Congress Created)		
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date	14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
Pub. L. 114-94	12/04/2015	Ad hoc	No
15. Description of Committee	Non Scientific Program Advisory Board		
16a. Total Number of Reports	No Reports for this FiscalYear		
17a. Open Meetings and Dates	17b. Closed	17c. Partially Closed	Other Activities
No Meetings	0	0	0

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00

19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)

0.00 0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

Working Group prepared a report of recommendations and submitted the report to the DFO on 9/15/2017.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The membership is comprised of: 1. Individuals with expertise in consumer affairs. Such individuals appointed from the private sector will serve as Special Government Employees. 2. Educators with expertise in how people learn most effectively. Such individuals appointed from the private sector will serve as Special Government Employees. 3. Representatives of the interstate household goods moving industry. These representatives may not constitute a majority of the HHG Working Group.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

HHG Working Group meetings approximately four times each calendar year. There were no meeting in Fy19 since the committee had already submitted their recommendations.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The HHG Working Group developed recommendations on how best to convey to consumers relevant information with respect to the Federal laws concerning the interstate transportation of household goods by motor carrier.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Not Applicable

21. Remarks

The FMCSA recommendation is to terminate the HHG Consumer Protection Working Group as it has completed the tasks congressionally mandated in the FAST Act legislation. All cost associated with this committee were processed in FY2017 and recorded in the previous database. Per legislation HHGCPWG can sunset 1 year after the date it submits its report or 2 years after the date of filing. The Working Group's report of recommendations was submitted to FMCSA on September 15, 2017. The report has been published on the public FMCSA website.

Designated Federal Officer

Kenneth Rodgers DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
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Acuna, Francisco	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Household Goods Compliance Solutions, Inc.	Representative Member
Blazer, Thomas	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Ohio Trucking Association	Representative Member
Carney, Thomas	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Carney-McNicholas, Inc.	Representative Member
Esparza, John	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Texas Trucking Association	Representative Member
Friedman, Andrew	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	1-800-Pact-Rat, LLC	Representative Member
Gartian, Jennifer	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Federal Maritime Commission	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
McQueen, Margaret	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Meyer, Gabriel	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	U.S. Surface Transportation Board	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Michael, Scott	05/22/2017	11/13/2018	American Moving and Storage Association	Representative Member
Owen, Kelsey	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Better Business Bureau	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Paraino, Heather	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Move Rescue - Unigroup	Representative Member
Todd, Jonathan	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff, LLP	Representative Member
White, Charles	11/13/2016	11/13/2018	International Association of Movers	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 13

Narrative Description

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES: The HHG Working Group shall develop recommendations on how best to convey to consumers relevant information with respect to the Federal laws concerning the interstate transportation of household goods by motor carrier. Before December 4, 2016, the HHG Working Group shall submit their recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation through the Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). The recommendations shall include but not be limited to: a. How to condense FMCSA publication/pamphlet ESA 03-005 (Ready to Move?) (rev. April 2006) into a format that is more easily used by consumers; b. How best to use state-of-the-art education techniques and technologies for conveying relevant information with respect to Federal laws concerning the interstate transportation of household goods by motor carrier (including, but not limited to, how to optimize the Internet as an educational tool); c. How to reduce and simplify the paperwork required of motor carriers and shippers in interstate transportation; and d. Other relevant recommendations as tasked by FMCSA. The FMCSA Commercial Enforcement and Investigations Division has the responsibility of providing consumer protection as it relates to interstate transportation of household goods. The tasks outlined for the FAST Act Household Goods Consumer Protection Working Group supports this mission.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety

Trust in government

- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

The Department has submitted the required follow-up Report to Congress in October 2019 on the implementation of the working group's recommendations. The Department plans to move forward on implementing the recommendations soon.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

There will be a cost savings for HHG motor carriers and HHG brokers when their paperwork is reduced that must be provided to their customers.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

19

Number of Recommendations Comments

The majority of the recommendations require changes to our current regulations in part 375. The Department plans to move forward on updating the regulations soon.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The Department is currently evaluating the recommendations for implementation. Since many of the recommendations will require change to regulations, the process to fully implementation will take some time.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

We have developed a plan for Recommendation #1 – Education Modules 1 to 5 and have presented to the Office of Outreach and Education. This office will be working with a contractor to finalize these modules for placement in the 2020 Moving Season Campaign.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

The Department submitted its required report to Congress on the implementation of working group recommendations in October 2019.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

	Checked if Applies
Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

The majority of the recommendations from the working group will require a rulemaking. The policy office drafted a memo to the FMCSA Administrator and the Secretary seeking approval to begin a rulemaking for 49 CFR part 375.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

Not Applicable

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

Access Comments

Not Applicable