

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

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>
Department of Transportation	2019
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>
Household Goods Consumer Protection Working Group	2607

<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	10/13/2016	10/13/2018	10/13/2018

<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
Yes	Pub. L. 114-94	10/13/2018

<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>
Terminate	No	Not Applicable

**11. Establishment Authority** Statutory (Congress Created)

<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
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 Fiscal Year

**17a. Open** 0 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 0

**Meetings and Dates**

No Meetings

**Current Next**  
**FY FY**

<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	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

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
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
Gartlian, 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	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**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	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Online Committee Web Site



Online GSA FACA Web Site



Publications



Other



**Access Comments**

Not Applicable