

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE TORT REFORM

Description

Texas has recently seen a rise in both the number of lawsuits filed against commercial vehicles involved in accidents, as well as in the amount of damages awarded for those accidents.

PEC Legislative Position

PEC supports reducing the costs for operation of commercial vehicles due to unreasonable litigation and to provide reasonable policies concerning motor vehicle insurance.

EMINENT DOMAIN/LANDOWNER BILL OF RIGHTS

Description

An easement is the right to cross or use another's land for a specified purpose, such as the location of utilities. Eminent domain (condemnation) is the legal authority held by certain entities that allows them to condemn private property for use as an easement under certain circumstances. Generally, acquisition of easement rights through condemnation occurs when a landowner and the entity with eminent domain authority cannot reach a negotiated agreement on the easement acquisition terms and compensation.

PEC Legislative Position

PEC follows current state law requirements when exercising its right of eminent domain and supports legislation which allows for responsible, timely development of critical infrastructure throughout the state while protecting private landowners' rights.