

# DANNEMILLER BULLETIN

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Last night President Obama signed into law the "FY 2015 Omnibus Appropriations Bill" which, as pertinent here, suspends two onerous restrictions on the 34-hour Re-Start rule,...specifically the current requirement that the 34-hour re-start include two consecutive periods of between 1:00 am and 5:00 am, and also suspends the restriction on using the re-start more than once per week (every 168 hours) that went into effect on July 1, 2013. This is welcome news as many people who actually operate commercial vehicles, and myself, felt these restrictions were dreamed up by a room full of bureaucrats in a haze from viewing their myriad charts on sleep apnea and moon rotation cycles.

The suspension of these provisions is now in effect and all activity and logs can reflect this development; however, drivers should be given some documentation on this as it may not have drifted down to all enforcement personnel. As of now the suspension is not permanent. The FMCSA has been ordered to begin a study of the impact of the suspended restrictions on highway safety. Since this was part an appropriations bill, which are supposed to be reviewed annually, it is possible that if the matter is not finally decided by then, it may again be the subject of discussion next year.

If you would like to learn more about this read this guide or watch ATA Executive Vice President Dave Osiecki give a brief update on the hours-of-service rules.