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PRESS RELEASE

Government of Belize Strengthens Transport Regulations at Border Points with New Amendments

Belmopan, February 5, 2025.

The Ministry of Youth, Sports & Transport, through the Department of Transport, informs the public that the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Regulation of Transport at Border Points) Regulations have been amended by Statutory Instrument No. 19 of 2025, published in the Gazette on February 3, 2025. This amendment follows extensive engagement with the Corozal and Benque Viejo Municipal Authorities and Belizean commercial truck operators, who have been negatively impacted by inadequate border transport regulations.

Key amendments include a reduction in road service charges from \$100 per vehicle axle to \$30 per vehicle axle, which will be applied to both foreign-registered and Belizean-registered vehicles transporting cargo for commercial purposes into Belize. These changes are expected to generate much-needed revenue for border municipalities, which will be directed toward improving public roads and other essential infrastructure projects. Additionally, the amendments will eliminate evasion of fees by foreign cargo transporters, ensuring a more equitable system that protects Belizean businesses and strengthens the framework of the country's commercial transport sector.

Hon. Rodwell Ferguson, Minister of Youth, Sports, and Transport, emphasized the importance of these regulatory updates, stating, *“These amendments reflect our commitment to strengthening Belize’s land transportation infrastructure while ensuring an efficient and transparent system for cross-border trade and travel.”* The Ministry remains committed to fair and effective transport policies that promote national development.

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