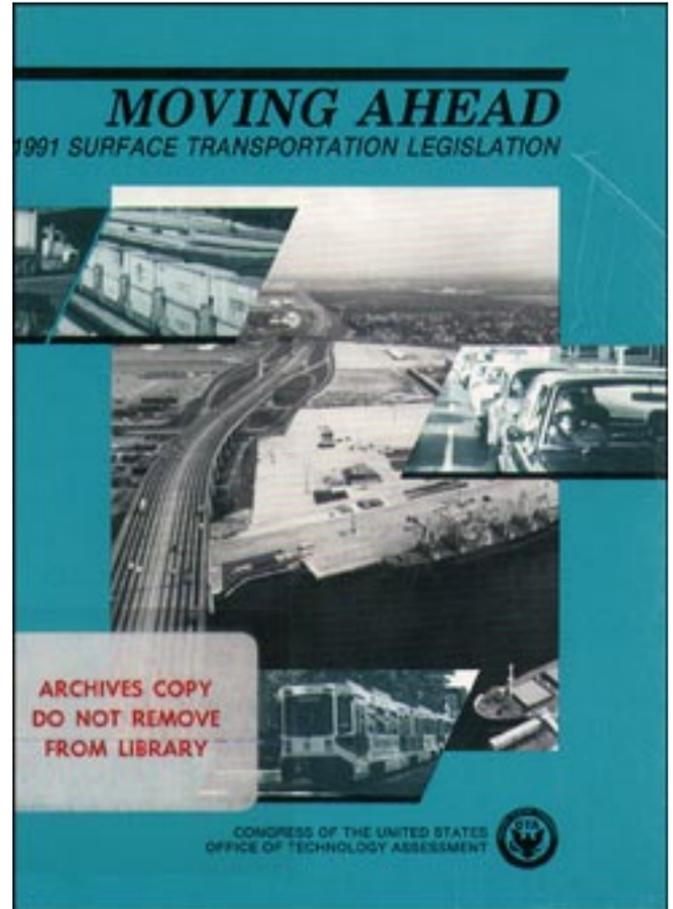


*Moving Ahead: 1991 Surface  
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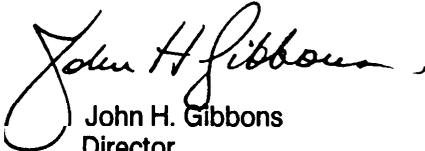
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## FOREWORD

Crumbling highways in rural areas, crushing traffic congestion in cities, and overwhelming and competing demands on the Federal, State, and local government dollars needed to fix these problems made reauthorization of Federal surface transportation legislation a major agenda item for the 102d Congress. Anticipating heated debate on highway, transit, and related surface transportation issues, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works asked OTA in May 1990 to use the information and background accumulated during its infrastructure studies, *Rebuilding the Foundations and Delivering the Goods*, and undertake a focused analysis of surface transportation policies, programs, and technologies. The Committee wanted to use this new study, *Moving Ahead: 7997 Surface Transportation Legislation*, to help identify changes and set new priorities for Federal surface transportation assistance programs. Previously Senator Hatch had asked OTA to evaluate technologies for heavy trucks, and since motor carrier issues are an integral part of surface transportation legislation, the decision was made to undertake a single study addressing these related requests.

The categorical grant programs and apportionment formulas that are part of most current Federal aid to surface transportation are extremely complex and incorporate some of the most divisive and contentious aspects of legislative decisionmaking. To ensure that a spectrum of policy options is laid out, *Moving Ahead* provides four illustrative, generic models, with program components that can be mixed and matched. Safety, research and development agendas, and motor carrier issues, with special attention to heavy trucks with multiple trailers, are also discussed.

Workshop participants and a number of government, industry, and private citizen reviewers gave us an invaluable range of information. OTA is grateful for the time and energy committed so generously by each individual. Their participation does not necessarily represent endorsement of the contents of the report, for which OTA bears sole responsibility.



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