



October 20, 2015

Alliance for Toll-Free Interstates  
PO Box 20  
Richmond, VA 23218

The Honorable Members of  
The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee of  
The U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representatives,

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for proposing a multi-year highway funding bill, the “Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2015,” before the October 29 expiration of surface transportation programs across the nation. While ATFI urges the committee to eliminate the Interstate System Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Pilot Program (ISRRPP) entirely, we commend you for taking into account your constituents’ vocal opposition to tolling existing interstates.

Specifically, we are pleased to see that the proposed legislation does not expand the number of pilot program slots, nor does it allow funds collected through tolls to be diverted to other purposes. This stands in contrast to the Senate’s DRIVE Act, put forward in July, which includes language that would allow funds collected by tolling an interstate under the ISRRPP to be spent on completely unrelated projects. Because tolls are generally upheld as a ‘user fee’ for the roads traveled, diverting these funds away from infrastructure improvements is a violation of public trust.

The ISRRPP has provided 17 years’ worth of evidence that tolling existing interstates is not a viable transportation funding method. We are hopeful that it will not take many more years for Congress to end this experiment and remove this distraction from the funding conversation.

History has shown that, when given full consideration, states recognize what all the impacted industries have always known – that tolling interstate lanes which drivers now freely access is not only unpopular, it is an inefficient financing mechanism that is the worst possible approach to raising transportation revenue. Electronic tolls can waste 14% to 20% of revenues on administrative costs. Tolling takes a huge bite out of commuter pay, and modern electronic tolling can discriminate against the tens-of-millions of Americans who are un-banked. Tolling also diverts traffic onto secondary roads, which leads to premature road maintenance costs for local taxpayers. Because secondary roads are less

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equipped to handle such traffic volumes, diversion endangers public safety by delaying first responders and increasing accident rates.

As amendments to the bill are discussed, the Alliance for Toll-Free Interstates urges you to reject any measures to expand the ISRRPP or divert toll revenue away from the road on which it was collected. The pilot program has failed, and the reasonable response to that failure is to eliminate it and move on to more viable revenue generation ideas.

Sincerely,

Alabama Trucking Association, Inc.

Alaska Trucking Association, Inc.

American Bakers Association

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Highway Users Alliance

American Motorcyclist Association

American Moving and Storage

Association

American Trucking Associations

Arizona Trucking Association

Arkansas Trucking Association

Best Way Express

Burger King Corporation

California Trucking Association

Citizen Outreach

Colorado Motor Carriers Association

Con-Way, Inc.

Delaware Motor Transport Assoc. Inc.

FedEx

Florida Trucking Association, Inc.

Georgia Motor Trucking Association, Inc.

Hawaii Transportation Association

Idaho Trucking Association

Illinois Trucking Association, Inc.

Indiana Motor Truck Association, Inc.

International Foodservice Distributors

Association

International Franchise Association

Iowa Motor Truck Association, Inc.

Kansas Motor Carriers Association

Kentucky Motor Transport Assoc., Inc.

Louisiana Motor Transport Association,

Inc.

Maine Motor Transport Association, Inc.

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| Maryland Motor Truck Association, Inc.                           | New Jersey Motor Truck Association                        |
| Massachusetts Motor Transp. Assoc., Inc.                         | New Mexico Trucking Association                           |
| McDonald's   | New York State Motor Truck Assn.                          |
| Michigan Trucking Association, Inc.                              | No Tolls I-95 Coalition, Inc.                             |
| Minnesota Trucking Association                                   | North Carolina Trucking Assoc., Inc.                      |
| Mississippi Trucking Association                                 | North Dakota Motor Carriers Assoc., Inc.                  |
| Missouri Trucking Association                                    | Ohio Trucking Association                                 |
| Motor Carriers of Montana  | Oklahoma Trucking Association                             |
| Motor Transport Association of CT, Inc.                          | Old Dominion Freight Line, Inc.                           |
| Motorcycle Riders Foundation                                     | Oregon Trucking Associations, Inc.                        |
| National Association of Convenience<br>Stores                    | Owner-Operator Independent Drivers<br>Association [OOIDA] |
| National Council of Chain Restaurants                            | Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association                      |
| National Motorists Association                                   | Rhode Island Trucking Association, Inc.                   |
| National Shippers Strategic<br>Transportation Council [NASSTRAC] | SIGMA: America's Leading Fuel Marketers                   |
| National Tank Truck Carriers                                     | South Carolina Trucking Assoc., Inc.                      |
| NATSO, representing America's<br>Truckstops and Travel Plazas    | South Dakota Trucking Association                         |
| Nebraska Trucking Association                                    | Specialized Carriers & Rigging<br>Association             |
| Nevada Trucking Association, Inc.                                | Tennessee Trucking Association                            |
| New Hampshire Motor Transport Assoc.                             | Texas Trucking Association                                |
|  | Tire Industry Association                                 |

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Transportation Intermediaries

Association

Truck Renting and Leasing Association

Truckload Carriers Association

UPS

Utah Trucking Association

Vermont Truck and Bus Association, Inc.

Virginia Trucking Association

Volvo Group North America

Washington Trucking Associations

Werner Enterprises

West Virginia Trucking Association, Inc.

White Castle

Wisconsin Motor Carriers Association

Wyoming Trucking Association, Inc.

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