December 5, 2024

Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Tom Carper Environment and Public Works Committee 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Chairman Sam Graves
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
1135 Longworth House Office Building

Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito Environment and Public Works Committee 170 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C 20510

Ranking Member Rick Larsen Transportation and Infrastructure Committee 2163 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C 20515

Re: Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024

Dear Chairmen Carper and Graves and Ranking Members Capito and Larsen

On behalf of the American Highway Users Alliance (the Highway Users), I write to express our strong support for S. 4367, The Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024. This bipartisan, and bicameral reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act, includes many important provisions for improving our nation's ports and harbors which play critical roles in our supply chain. Of particular interest to the Highway Users, is the inclusion of the Senate's Fiscally Responsible Highway Funding Act, which redirects unspent Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) funds to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP).

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) represents a significant increase in investment towards fixing and expanding our national highway system. The recently released 25th edition of the Federal Highway Administration's Conditions and Performance report estimates a \$1.1 trillion backlog in needed maintenance and improvements to our highway system. It is clear that sustained and robust investments in our highway system will be essential for the safe and efficient movement of goods and the traveling public along our nation's highways. By redistributing unspent TIFIA funds to the states by formula, Congress would ensure that Highway Trust Fund (HTF) dollars will be spent on needed road and bridge projects across the country.

The Highway Users believe the United States needs a modern highway system to compete in a global economy. A modern highway system will improve safety and efficiency for all users of the national highway system. This goal can only be achieved through sustained investment in our national highway system and ensuring that HTF revenue is promptly invested. S 4367 ensures that obligated HTF revenue is spent on our national highway system, I applaud Chairmen Carper and Graves and Ranking Members Capito and Larsen for including this important provision in S. 4367, and I urge both the House and Senate to quickly pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Andrew Stasiowski, President and CEO

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