



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SERVICES
PAM LAW, COMMISSIONER

April 21, 2009

**TO: The Honorable Toni N. Harp, Co-Chair
The Honorable John C. Geragosian, Co-Chair
Members of the Appropriations Committee**

**FROM: Pam Law, Commissioner
Department of Revenue Services** *Pam Law*

**RE: H.R. No. 19 and S.R. No. 17
Resolution Proposing Approval of a Stipulated Agreement Between the State of
Connecticut and Connecticut Police and Fire Union, NP-5 Bargaining Unit.**

As you are aware, the Connecticut Motor Vehicle Fuels Tax produced \$478,388,435 last year, while the Connecticut Motor Carrier Road Tax brought in another \$16,736,065. That's more than \$495 million in combined state revenue.

Each year Enforcement Agents of the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services (DRS) participate in a program of highway inspection and enforcement to protect those revenues from evasion and fraud. DRS was recently able to obtain an additional \$65,000 in federal funds specifically obligated to pay for joint weekend enforcement activities with the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles Commercial Vehicle Safety Division. These activities include motor fuel tax enforcement and highway safety inspections. Weekend enforcement expands the effectiveness of our normal operations, while at the same time helping to close a tax evasion "loophole" as commercial vehicles pass through our state in a highly mobile industry.

A stipulated agreement is required for the authorization of overtime payment for these DRS Tax Enforcement Agents and their Supervisors, who do not have a contractual exception for the overtime needed to conduct Motor Fuel Enforcement activities during weekend shifts.

The purpose of this resolution is to approve a stipulated agreement allowing the expenditure of these obligated federal funds for the intended enforcement purpose. These funds would eventually lapse without such approval, and would be returned to the federal government without benefit to the State of Connecticut.

We urge your favorable consideration. Thank you.