

2/18/11

To: Transportation Committee members
RE: Opposition to tolls on Connecticut roads
From: Neil Tolhurst, New Hartford

Bringing tolls back to Connecticut's roads is a bad idea. All bills related to that should be defeated.

Tolls are known to be one of the most inefficient methods of taxation. They have overhead costs that reduce revenue other methods of taxation do not have. If there is a genuine need to add to the taxes we already pay, adding to something already in place would not have the overhead costs of creating an entirely new toll system.

Toll issues not addressed often enough:

- the initial and ongoing overhead costs for new structures
 - the possible loss of federal highway funds
 - the need to create, staff, and maintain another administrative bureaucracy
 - the electronic billing system errors
 - the easy ways to defeat license plate cameras
 - the inefficiencies and poor customer service from EZ-Pass office workers
 - the added chore for us drivers of monitoring periodic billing statements
- I've had bad experiences with both NYS & NJ when there were errors or billing questions with my EZ-Pass. Resolving those errors with the EZ Pass employees was time consuming and inefficient. Who needs more aggravation?