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**Testimony from Fran Mayko, Public Affairs Manager
AAA Southern New England
Committee on Transportation**

**SJ 23 – A RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION LIMITING
THE USE OF MONEYS CONTAINED IN THE SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION FUND.**

Mr. Chairmen and members of the Transportation Committee . . .

My name is Fran Mayko. I am public affairs manager for AAA Southern New England. Our territory covers Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Fairfield, New Haven, and Litchfield Counties in Connecticut. In those three counties, we represent about a half million members.

I thank you for this opportunity to speak in support of **SJ 23 – A Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the State Constitution Limiting the Use of Moneys Contained in the Special Transportation Fund.**

Thirty years ago, when the Special Transportation Fund was first established, the idea was good one to use gas tax receipts to finance much-needed investments in our transportation infrastructure.

But over the last few decades, it appears the State has lost sight of the fund's original purpose.

As a result, our statewide transportation infrastructure has suffered greatly. This, in turn, continues to hinder our economic growth and stymie our ability to attract business.

AAA Southern New England applauds the Transportation Committee for raising this bill; the economic vitality of this state depends upon it.

It has always been AAA's position that any revenue, generated from gas taxes, fees, or other pricing mechanisms paid by Connecticut motorists, be dedicated solely to meeting the state's transportation needs.

And it's also our position that this revenue be protected from diversion to other uses.

(Please turn over)

In fact, a million AAA members statewide agree with that position.

In a recent survey of AAA Southern New England members in Litchfield, New Haven and Fairfield Counties, **79% said they would support a law** that prohibits the State from using gas tax receipts for anything other than transportation projects.

The AAA Allied Group conducted a similar survey of its half –million members in its territory of Hartford, Middlesex, New London, Windham, and Tolland Counties. In that survey, **80% also said they too would support such a law.**

So together, nearly **8 in 10 AAA members in Connecticut** want something done.

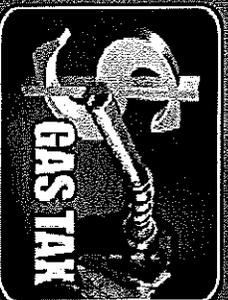
So with these survey results in mind, I urge you **to support a resolution** for the November ballot to protect this Special Fund, whose sole purpose is to fund much-needed transportation initiatives in Connecticut.

-AAA-

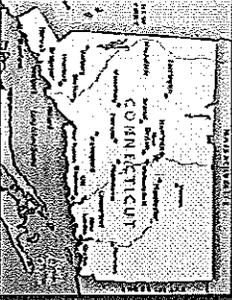
2013 AAA Survey Results for a CT Lock Box Law



79% support a law that would prohibit the State from using gas tax receipts for anything other than transportation projects



80% support a law that would prohibit the State from using gas tax receipts for anything other than transportation projects



AAA Southern New England has a half-million members living in Litchfield, Fairfield, & New Haven Counties.
AAA Allied Group has a half-million members living in Hartford, Middlesex, Tolland, Windham, and New London Counties.

