

Dear Representative Guerrero:

I am writing to you, once again, to express my feelings on the installation of toll booths in Connecticut. I am not necessarily opposed to reinstating the collection of tolls in our state, however, I would hope that consideration would be given to all CT residents that are already paying more than their fair share in taxes. It is my belief that, as one of less than a handful of states that charge property taxes on motor vehicles, the lawmakers in CT should take this into consideration.

While the property taxes do provide desperately needed revenue to the state's municipalities, and it would be detrimental to eliminate them without an alternate plan in place, this revenue should justify issuance of an EZ Pass to all state residents with registered vehicles in CT who already pay property taxes. This would both increase revenues associated with vehicle registration and not create additional hardships for CT residents. It is frustrating to see people register their vehicles out of state, yet reap the benefits that the rest of us have subsidized. Additionally, academic institutions and corporations simply register their vehicles in other states and pay nothing. Drive along North Frontage Road in New Haven on any day of the week and you will see Yale's shuttle vehicles registered in Georgia and Virginia. They may have other vehicles registered elsewhere, but these are the 2 examples that immediately come to mind.

It is fair for out-of-state drivers to pay to use our roads and provide the critically needed funding to improve our infrastructure and I have no opposition to this part of the proposal. I do, however, oppose anything that disproportionately impacts those of us that are already struggling financially.

Thank you.

Beth Auerbach