

To whom it may concern:

Regarding the following bill.

General Assembly Raised Bill No. 6818

January Session, 2015 LCO No. 3863 *03863_____TRA*

Referred to Committee on TRANSPORTATION

Introduced by: (TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC TOLLS AT THE STATE'S BORDERS.

I would like to speak in opposition to the imposition of tolls on the limited access roads into and out of the state as defined by the FHA, for ### reasons.

1) It is fiscally irresponsible. CT drivers already pay the highest gas taxes, and we've been enduring poor roads for as far into the past as I can recall. We had tolls, they didn't give us good roads in the 60's, 70's, or 80's, when we had less than half the traffic we have today.

2) No one believes that the funds will remain isolated and designated to the intended purpose! Granted that is more about the politicians than the roads or the tolls; perception is reality.

3) Toll will have negative consequences on state businesses. CT borders NY, MA, & RI. Aside from the border people who have *already* left the state but still commute in, Toll will discourage residents from those states from entering via main roads and push them onto secondary roads. Neither US Rt 1 or 7 etc, will become toll roads, but they will become traffic jams, and guess which state will be blamed?

4) Personally, I will not be impacted by the tolls, I know the back roads, and I WILL use them to avoid the tolls, as will many others. What I resent is the negative impact the tolls will have on the state, its citizens, and what it says about the legislature's contempt for us.

Perhaps someday soon, the legislature will listen to the people who actually pay the bills and stop pandering to the parasites who consume the bulk of the state's budget. Connecticut used to be a great state! We had wealth, we had class, we made the most out of our tiny physical space. Today, CT is the nanny state, we're in debt, and Nutmeggers have been fleeing for decades. There is a joke-meme image of one of the Connecticut State Highway signs that Reads:

You are now leaving Connecticut.

We're sorry to see you go.

Was it something we taxed?

I can't think of a more appropriate signoff to this testimony.

--Paul



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The Light is Green!