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Testimony of Representative David Arconti, Jr.  
Transportation Committee  
Wednesday, February 25, 2015

House Bill 6818 –An Act Concerning the Establishment of Electronic Tolls at The State’s Borders

Good Morning co-chairs Senator Maynard, Representative. Guerrera, and members of the Transportation Committee. Thank you for allowing me to address the committee today.

My name is David Arconti and I am the State Representative for Danbury’s 109<sup>th</sup> District. I am here this morning to testify against House Bill 6818- An Act Concerning The Establishment of Electronic Tolls at The State’s Borders.

Some of us agree that tolls are a bad idea for various reasons including traffic congestion, the potential loss of federal funding and the negative impact on our economy, just to name a few.

However, for Danbury, as one of the border towns being considered, the proposal could be devastating. Our city provides a large portion of revenue to Connecticut’s coffers through the sales tax, earning us a prominent spot within the top ten municipalities contributing the most to Connecticut’s economy through taxes.

Our economy thrives on Danbury’s 1.3 million square foot mall and a robust downtown business district, which is patronized by neighboring towns and many out of state consumers.

I don't believe that adding tolls is the solution to refurbishing the transportation infrastructure. We have talked about this in the past, and have concluded it's not a good idea.

Let's maintain that position. Once again, thank you for your consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Arconti, Jr.