

This is a bad idea and House Bill 6818 must not be approved. Tolls were eliminated from major Connecticut thoroughfares years ago. Now once again tolls are seen as an attractive source of new revenue because the tax and spend administration in Hartford has no self control and no intention to manage Connecticut's financial problems in a more measured, fiscally prudent way.

Young families and millennials have witnessed this lack of control and are leaving our state for more tax-reasonable areas of the country where they can buy modest starter homes with mortgages that allow them to begin saving for the future; where they can raise their families without the constant pressure for additional operating revenue that Connecticut imposes on their young and older residents; and where they do not see huge portions of their pay going to taxes where there is little expressed intention to reasonably control the state's appetite for more money. **Connecticut has not been labeled the most taxed state in the United States without valid reason.** Now our one-term education Governor has decided enough focus has been placed on public education over the last two years so it is time to redirect much of this funding elsewhere.

Over time, toll revenue is unlikely to be used for its initially intended purpose. Just like the state's share of casino and lotto revenue, originally intended to supplement educational funding, has found its way into pet projects geared mainly to solidify re-election campaigns.

Border Tolls will economically damage border communities who rely on the tax revenue generated by commuters, visitors and businesses that come into these cities and towns to shop, eat and conduct their livelihood and business affairs.

Border Toll monies will eventually be used for other purposes because the Connecticut Legislature has **little patience and desire to spend the taxpayers' money wisely and in a more prudent, responsible way.**

SAY NO TO HB 6818

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