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Transportation Committee
Room 2300, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Opposition to the following bills:

- **Proposed S.B. No. 560** - An Act Instituting Electronic Tolls On Connecticut's Highways
- **Proposed S.B. No. 751** - An Act Establishing Electronic Tolls On Connecticut's Highways Using A Congestion Pricing System
- **Proposed H.B. No. 5458** - An Act Establishing Electronic Tolls On Connecticut's Highways
- **Proposed H.B. No. 6045** - An Act Instituting Congestion Variable Pricing Lanes On Interstate Highways
- **Proposed H.B. No. 6058** - An Act Concerning Electronic Tolls

Distinguished Members of the Committee on Transportation,

My name is Frank C. DeFelice, and I serve as Chairman of the Regional Planning Commission of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG). I have also served as the Chairman of Durham's Public Safety Commission for more than eleven years. I wanted to communicate my personal thoughts on the aforementioned bills to you.

First, I strongly **oppose** the concept of placing tolls on Connecticut's highways. Such tolls would unquestionably result in large shifts in traffic patterns; with drivers moving from highways with tolls, to the state's already overloaded secondary roads. Our state's secondary roads were never designed or constructed to handle the current traffic volumes; let alone the contribution from our state's limited access highway system should tolls be placed. Municipalities located along these highways would incur increased traffic enforcement costs, due to this additional traffic on their secondary and collector roads. Our Municipalities are already saddled with budget difficulties.

Second, as your constituents are keenly aware: **A Toll is Tax.** Connecticut can no longer seek solutions which ask low-and-middle income earners to pay additional monies to travel back-and-forth to their jobs.

I respectfully urge you to **oppose** the installation of tolls on Connecticut's Highways.

Respectfully,

Frank C. DeFelice