

Name: Jonathan Dill

Title: Small business owner

Organization or Agency:

Topic: HB05290 - AA SUNSETTING THE HIGHWAY USE TAX.

Supports

Testimony:

I am a lifelong Connecticut resident and small business owner. I own 2 tractor trailers and operate them to, thru and from CT. I have tried to pass along this new tax cost to my customers; with limited success. This tax is costing me initial monies out of pocket (by estimate vs last calendar year approximately \$700 a month) which I am finding quite challenging to recoup as a small carrier (and therefore not a big enough player to force the issue) - as well as driving up my cost of living because the bigger players in this game can raise their prices and that is therefore passed along to me the consumer.

This tax burden falls squarely upon residents, and more heavily upon the small trucking carriers based here. As Connecticut based trucking companies, we will always have more mileage by percentage of total miles in the state in which we are based, and bear the brunt of paying increases both through our cost of operation and personal living expenses.

I am not a "big guy" as Governor Lamont has stated as those that will bear the cost. I am a small company. Through this tax upon me, I have to increase my unpaid office time for calculating and filing this tax, spend more from the extremely thin margin this business operates on, and now have a higher cost of living as a result of what has been passed through to me as a consumer.