

**Stephen and Mary Jane Dix**  
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January 31, 2020

To: Transportation Committee

Re: Support for Tolls

Dear Sirs:

I'm very fortunate to live in Old Lyme, the centroid of transportation between NYC and Boston. We are blessed with major interstates and cursed by the fact that everyone must pass through our town to get to The Cape, Casinos and between Boston, Rhode Island and NYC. We are blessed by having a wonderful, wide and fairly new Baldwin Bridge which get me across the River very easily.

I deal with the I95 traffic daily and do not understand why we must give all the out of state and commuters a free ride. I believe in user fees and recognize that the gas tax does not work as some of my best friend now drive a Tesla, trading in their gas guzzlers for tax free transportation. These folks are the same lobbyist fighting the tolls because they commute to New Haven.

A compromise, which is not perfect, could be adopted from NYC where my sister-in-law receives a tax credit or some type of annual compensation for working in NYC and living in New Jersey. She is forced to commute across the Hudson and this payment reduces her daily expense.

If the shoreline commuters are so politically powerful let's find a way to lessen their financial burden while also charging all out of state truck and cars for use of our roads and bridges. This revenue stream must be tapped, and the general tax revenue saved to stimulate our businesses. Being a resident of Connecticut should not mean we subsidize the cost of travel on our interstates. I pay user based EZ-Pass fees in NY, MA and NJ and I feel its selfish anti toll commuters on these roads to force us all to subsidize drivers from these states using my CT tax dollars.

Sincerely,

Stephen P. Dix, P.E.