



FOUNDATION FOR FAIR CONTRACTING OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

1268 Main St., Suite 202
Newington, CT 06111



Transportation Committee
Public Hearing

January 31, 2020

Re: LCO 373 - *An Act Concerning the Sustainability of Connecticut's Transportation Infrastructure*

Chairman Leone, Chairman Lemar, Ranking Member Martin, Ranking Member Devlin and members of the Transportation Committee,

The Foundation for Fair Contracting of Connecticut (FFC) is a non-profit organization created by labor and management in order to monitor all public works construction projects covered under the Connecticut General Statutes Section 31-53 and the Davis-Bacon Act. We accomplish this by reviewing public documents prepared and/or submitted by the owner and contractor(s). We focus on licensing, proper payment of prevailing wage rates, proper classification of workers and properly administered state apprenticeship standards.

The FFC is submitting this testimony in **support** of LCO 373, "*An Act Concerning the Sustainability of Connecticut's Transportation Infrastructure*".

Connecticut is the only state on the eastern seaboard that lacks some type of tolling system. And as a result, Connecticut's current transportation funding is no longer adequate to support basic programs or to maintain our state's aging infrastructure. Our Special Transportation Fund (STF) is funded in part by the state's gasoline tax revenue. But as cars become more fuel efficient and as technologies continue to change and modernize, no longer can we rely on the gasoline tax alone to keep the STF solvent. The adoption of a trucks-only electronic tolling system will help ensure that we have a functional transportation system well into our state's future.

The FFC is an organization that promotes strong labor protections in our public contracts. Therefore, we applaud the administration and this committee for including the provision that the projects listed in this proposal "be subject to the prevailing wage requirements pursuant to section 31-53 of the general statutes or the rate established by the use of a project labor agreement."

The administration estimates that this proposal will equate to \$19 Billion of investments back into our state's economy, and to the creation of 23,000 good-paying jobs per year for the duration of this plan. It is critical that we not lose sight of the thousands of blue-collar, middle-class workers in this state who will benefit from a reliable family-sustaining job.

LCO 373 seeks to provide Connecticut with a long-term funding solution to address critical investments in our state's infrastructure, and to create thousands of good-paying jobs for our residents. We applaud this committee and the administration for taking bold action with this proposal and urge a favorable vote.

Respectfully Submitted,


Kimberly Glassman
Director