



January 30, 2020



Ct Legislature Transportation Committee  
Hearing Date 1-31-2020  
Room 1E

Draft Bill # 373

I am writing to the Transportation Committee in opposition to Bill # 373.

I am an owner of, Paine's Incorporated. Paine's is a 90 year old family owned refuse and recycling collection company servicing Hartford, Litchfield and Tolland counties. We employ 74 people and have over 50 class 8 trucks.

This bill will increase our costs. Currently we pay over \$ 215,000.00 to the State of Connecticut in fuel use fees, taxes and truck registrations each year. Based on the current proposal of 12 gantries, fees of \$6.00 to \$12.00 and one charge per truck per day, would increase our costs another nearly \$120,000.00.

If you approve Draft Bill # 373, we will be forced to transfer this increased cost along to our customers. Our customers are families, seniors on fixed budgets, large and small businesses, non-profit entities, construction companies, state facilities and municipalities.

If we review the impact of this Bill honestly, these increased cost due to tolls will be passed along to every consumers of any and all goods and services throughout the state. With the end result will be to further hurt the Connecticut economy which is still struggling to recover.

I have not seen anything about how the taxes and fees currently being collected will be used to fund the necessary bridge repairs and roads.

Everyone here has seen the documentation and knows that the state has diverted millions of dollars that were collected with the intended use for maintaining our highway and bridges diverted from their planned or promised use.

Let's do what we said we would be done and use the existing dollars to maintain our roads and bridges. Connecticut needs to stop diverting funds to cover gaps caused by poor planning and start being more accountable.

Please vote against this horrible regressive proposal.

**Paine's Inc., Recycling & Rubbish Removal**  
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