

To: Brian T. Smith
Norman Needleman
Richard Blumenthal
Christopher Murphy
Joe Courtney

January 30, 2020

Subject: Testimony in Opposition to LCO-373

Dear Sirs,

I am in opposition to any tolls on Connecticut roadways. Tolls on trucks only, for now, is gateway to expand the number of gantries and tolling of all vehicles. In addition, there is no permanent cap. So the price of tolls can continue to rise indefinitely. The taxpayers of Connecticut already pay enough in taxes. Spending should be cut well before there is any entertainment of increasing revenue through tax increases or tolls on Connecticut roadways. These tolls amount to nothing more than a tax increase. Even if tolls remain limited to trucks, which I do not believe they will, the cost of the tolls on trucks will be passed onto the consumer, thereby effectively raising taxes on all taxpayers. Finally, there will be a substantial cost to erect the gantries, establish the structure and implement the program that will all have to be offset by toll revenue.

I implore you to not vote in favor of the tolls, as that will be in direct opposition to my views and will result in loss of my vote and the vote of as many others as I can convince between now and election time.

William R. Watson, Jr.



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