

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF LCO #373: "An Act Concerning the Sustainability of Connecticut's Transportation Infrastructure"

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING JANUARY 31, 2020

Dear Chairmen Sen. Leone and Rep. Lemar, Vice-Chairs Sen. Bergstein and Rep. Simms, Ranking Members Sen. Martin and Rep. Devlin, and Distinguished Members of the Transportation Committee,

We are residents of Glastonbury, Connecticut, and we are submitting testimony in support of LCO #373: "An Act Concerning the Sustainability of Connecticut's Transportation Infrastructure"

I support adding tolls to state highways, to help support the transportation infrastructure.

Currently, CT taxpayers pay 100% of the transportation infrastructure costs. There is no burden on out of state drivers, who are easily able to drive through our small state without ever stopping to fill up on gasoline, contributing to gasoline tax revenues, or even to buy any goods or services in our state. CT will receive \$180 million annually by tolls on trucks only, most of which are out of state trucks.

Trucks cause more damage to our roads than cars. Tolls are paid by trucks up and down the Eastern seaboard and CT's infrastructure will benefit from collecting tolls on trucks.

Toll revenue will go only to transportation infrastructure as required by Federal law. If this doesn't pass, the Republicans want to pay for the transportation infrastructure by borrowing bond funds, which in the long term will cost the taxpayers more money.

We also support tolls on passenger vehicles, with the ability to rebate some of those expenses to cars registered in CT, possibly by reducing registration fees or rebates on property taxes. When we visit family and friends in NJ or MA, we pay tolls to their states. They visit us without helping CT infrastructure by tolls or gas taxes.

I urge the committee to vote Yes for LCO #373, as a first step to sharing the burden of infrastructure repairs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janice and Richard Hoff
Glastonbury, CT
06033