

TRA Testimony

I would like to express my opposition to the introduction of tolls for Connecticut. We had tolls many years ago in Connecticut and celebrated when they were finally removed from our highways in the 1990's. It seems foolish to re-introduce them back onto our highways and bridges today.

Proponents of tolls insist that they will be "trucks only." If we CT citizens could only believe that. Connecticut legislators have for many years raided the transportation fund to finance operating deficits, leaving little money to actually do transportation projects as the fund was supposed to do. So now we are to believe that these toll gantries will forever be limited to just trucks?

No.

Given past performance and broken promises of our legislature leaders, there will be a move in some future year to toll ALL vehicles with the rationale of "since the toll gantries are already in place." Promises will be broken yet again. A new tax will be thrust upon Connecticut residents who do most the driving on our roads. And then it will be years of fighting to get them removed again.

The only way to stop this is to **NOT INSTALL** tolls in the first place. Focus on expense reduction which is causing the fiscal problems here in Connecticut.

Respectfully

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