

May 4, 2010

Dear State Representative (or Senator):

I am writing to urge your support of legislation that increases the investment in Michigan's transportation infrastructure, like House Bills 5768 and 5768, which raises Michigan's gas and diesel taxes. Our transportation system is primarily funded through state vehicle registration fees and a fuel tax, which have not been raised since 1997.

Michigan's transportation infrastructure is crumbling due to the lack of proper funding over the years. Next year, our state is looking at a \$368 million shortfall in transportation funding and without any additional money our state stands to lose \$475 million in federal aid in FY 2010-11 and a total of \$2.1 billion over 2010-2014 five year program. Without this additional revenue, hundreds of Michigan's highway projects will be cut entirely out of our state's five year transportation program. Hundreds of millions of dollars in state and local transportation road projects will also be delayed. More than 6,500 highway jobs will be lost per year.

Infrastructure investment should be used as a catalyst for economic expansion. A vibrant Michigan is impossible without a quality transportation system crucial in moving goods and people quickly, safely and efficiently. We cannot afford to do nothing. Please support House Bills 5768 and 5769 to invest in Michigan's infrastructure and future.

Respectfully Submitted,