July 21, 2014



## Dear Senator:

The American Highway Users Alliance is a non-profit organization that represents the interests of the motoring public. Our coalition includes AAA clubs, trucking, bus, motorcycling, and RV groups, as well as a broad range of businesses that depend on a reliable and safe national highway system. Our members represent millions of Americans who pay the user fees and taxes that are deposited into the Highway Trust Fund.

This week, the Senate will consider HR 5021, a bill to extend current highway programs and supplement revenue into the Highway Trust Fund. HR 5021 must pass prior to the August recess in order to prevent a shortfall in the Highway Trust Fund during the midst of the summer construction season. Passage of the bill will give Congress a few more months to come up with a long-term solution that restores the fiscal sustainability of the Highway Trust Fund and authorizes a six-year highway bill.

We strongly urge the Senate to pass the short-term extension and immediately go to work on a solution for the long-term challenges facing the Highway Trust Fund.

Accordingly, we ask Senators to vote for the Carper/Corker/Boxer amendment to shorten the length of the Highway Trust Fund bailout by reducing transfers into the fund to \$8.1 billion. This amendment will help Congress and the Administration stay focused on solving the fundamental Highway Trust Fund problems before the end of the year. Kicking the can down the road to the next Congress will not make the problem go away. Congress should do its job sooner rather than later so that the States can get to work engineering and constructing the desperately needed highway infrastructure of the future.

We also ask that Senators <u>vote against a Lee amendment</u> that would devolve the federal-aid highway program to the States. The Constitution clearly gives the federal government a responsibility over interstate commerce and abandonment of this responsibility simply shifts the funding burden to the States, many of which have no realistic ability to take on this role. This is no solution to our national mobility and infrastructure challenges.

Thank you in advance for your support of America's motorists, riders, RVers, and professional drivers. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 857-1200.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Cohen, P.E. President and CEO