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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

March 17, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to urge your approval of Pennsylvania's application to toll Interstate 80 (I-80). Pennsylvania has a vast network of highways, bridges and transit and our current funding streams simply cannot keep pace with the system's expansion and maintenance demands. In 2007 I worked hard with my colleagues to pass Act 44, creating Pennsylvania's first-ever inflation-sensitive, long-term funding stream to solve our transportation funding crisis. Tolling I-80 was a critical piece of that legislation.

Now, it is up to you to allow Pennsylvania to move forward with our transportation funding solution. Tolling of Interstate 80 is paramount to the future of Pennsylvania's transportation infrastructure. Without your office's permission to toll I-80, our state will be crippled by a crumbling infrastructure, inadequate transit system and worsened economy. In my district in Center City Philadelphia, the Southeastern Transportation Authority has already indicated that without this funding, an estimated \$120 million for SEPTA alone, it will have to cut back on capital improvements. Without this funding, there will be thousands of fewer jobs in the greater Philadelphia area and tens of thousands of jobs across the state.

Yours,


Babette Josephs

CC: Honorable Senator Arlen Specter
Honorable Senator Bob Casey
Honorable Representative Bob Brady
Honorable Representative Chaka Fattah
Honorable Representative Allyson Schwartz
Joe Casey, CFO, SEPTA
Delaware Valley Association of Railroad Passengers