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**Cosponsor the STATE Act**  
**(Surface Transportation And Taxation Equity Act)**  
***Allow States More Control Over Their Transportation \$\$\$\$***

Dear Colleague:

The original purpose of the National Interstate Highway System was "to connect by routes, as direct as practicable, the principal metropolitan areas, cities, and industrial centers, to serve the national defense, and to connect at suitable border points with routes of continental importance..."

The interstate highway system was completed almost 20 years ago. Since then, the number of licensed drivers has increased 21% , registered vehicles are up 31% , and the number of miles driven by motorists has risen by 39%. However, we continue to spend billions of dollars through the same inefficient, top-down approach that only increased our nation's road capacity by a paltry 6% since completion.

That is why I am re-introducing the Surface Transportation And Taxation Equity Act (STATE Act). This legislation will allow any state that raises their state gas tax, to have their federal gas tax offset by the same amount. This will allow states to:

- Return primary transportation program responsibility and taxing authority to the States
- Free States' transportation dollars from Federal micromanagement and budgetary pressures
- Enable decisions regarding which infrastructure projects will be built, how they will be financed, and how they will be regulated to be made by persons best able to make the decisions
- Eliminate the current system in which a federal gasoline tax is sent to Washington and through a cumbersome Department of Transportation bureaucracy, and,
- Prohibit the federal government from forcing unwanted mandates on states by threatening to withhold transportation money

*(In previous Congresses scholars at the Heritage Foundation, CATO Institute, and the National Taxpayers Union have all written articles in support of the STATE Act.)*

The National Interstate Highway System has been completed. There needs to be a new system set in place that allows the states more discretion over their transportation programs and maximizes the resources available for our transportation system. This legislation will accomplish these goals. Please contact me or John Maniscalco (x5-4465) of my staff to become a cosponsor.

Sincerely,

  
Scott Garrett

Member of Congress