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February 1, 2012

The Honorable John L. Mica
Chairman
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman,

As your committee begins consideration of the surface transportation reauthorization bill, I wish to bring to your attention the need for toll-revenue credits. States such as my state of Texas are developing innovative avenues for financing new highway projects. In this time of tight budgeting, such methods are essential in providing new highways in growing areas like Texas.

At the same time, as states develop such alternative forms of financing, they should not be punished for such creativity in the form of the federal government withholding or rescinding funding in the same amount of the funding added by the states. Such behavior would deter new financing models and endanger the creation of new highways.

Thank you again for your dedication in advancing our country's transportation priorities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Burgess".

Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress