

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 20, 2008

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
221 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
230 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Senate Committee
on Finance
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Reid, McConnell, Baucus, and Grassley,

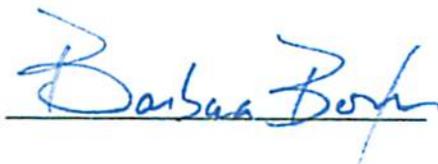
One of the lesser recognized effects of the recent economic downturn and rising energy prices has been a slowdown in projected revenues into the federal Highway Trust Fund. As a result, states are now facing the possibility of a \$14 billion, or 34 percent, cut in federal highway funding in FY 2009. We believe there are a variety of ways to avert the pending crisis and urge you to work with us to resolve this as soon as possible.

The federal highway program provides almost 45 percent of the annual capital investment in U.S. highway and bridge improvements. A reduction in highway investment of the magnitude currently projected would have far-ranging consequences. According to newly released data from the Federal Highway Administration, the pending revenue shortfall in FY 2009, if left unaddressed, would cost over 485,000 American jobs. Furthermore, ongoing efforts to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety and enhance long-term economic productivity would be severely disrupted by a large cut in highway investment.

We urge you to support fixing this looming crisis this fiscal year.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership and we look forward to working with you to preserve critical investment in our nation's highway infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Chris Smith

Frank R. Lautenberg

Bob Sanders

John L. Sauer

Chris Vitter

John Barrasso

Amy Klobuchar

Ben Cardin

Byrd

Arlen Specter

Jim Johnson

Susan M. Collins

Richard Shelby

Jeff Bond

Lamar Alexander

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Shelley

Shelley

Jon Lick

Debbie Stabenow

George V. Voinovich

Pat Roberts

Chris Shivers

Sam Barback

Olympia Snow

J. H. ...

Bob ...

Kay Bailey Hutchison

Mike Enzi

John F. Kerry

Paul Coburn

Herb Kohl

Robert Menendez

Byron R. Dorgan

Robert A. Neuberger

John ...

Patrick Leahy

Robert Wicker

Carl Levin

Bob Casey, Jr.

Bill Markey

Sally Chaudhry

Mike Croso

Pete Domenici

Noah Coleman

Lisa Murkowski

Dianne Feinstein

Ann Foy

Ed Stevens

Zon Harkin

to Benjamin Nelson

John E. Sumner

105 / 1 Linder

Elizabeth Dole

Bill Nelson

Wayne Hall

Blanche R. Lincoln

John Cornyn

Ken Salazar

John Reid

John Stinger
John Stinger

Ron Wyden

Tom Carper

Jay Rothwell

Mark Boyer

Jeff Sessions

