

# NORTH CAROLINA (Sen. Burr and Tillis)

## Current Transportation Condition:

- ASCE road grade of C<sup>1</sup>
- 10% of major roads are in poor condition
  - Costing motorists \$2.3b a year - \$346 per motorists<sup>2</sup>
  - Total of 1,289 people died on state highways in 2013<sup>3</sup>
- Vehicle travel on NC's highways has increased by 68% from 1990-2013<sup>4</sup>, while the population grew by 47 percent.<sup>5</sup>
- 54% of NC's major highways are congested<sup>6</sup>
  - Traffic congestion costs American motorists \$121b a year in wasted time and fuel<sup>7</sup>

## Commerce:

- 86% of the \$364b in commodities delivered annually from sites in NC is transported by trucks on the state's highways.<sup>8</sup>

## Need for Federal Investment

- 50% Federal share of NC Highway Capital Program<sup>9</sup>
- National Interstate Backlog of \$185.24b on 47,575 miles of interstate.<sup>10</sup>
  - National Highway System (NHS) backlog of \$424.5b on 227,224 miles of the NHS.

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## **DRIVE Act** → *What this does for North Carolina*

### Prioritizing Bridge Reconstruction and Safety:

- Increased bridge set aside funding for:
  - NC's 2,199 structurally deficient bridges - 29.44% are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete<sup>11</sup>
  - Current ASCE bridge grade of C-<sup>12</sup>

### Improving Commerce:

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<sup>1</sup> ASCE

<sup>2</sup> TRIP

<sup>3</sup> FHWA

<sup>4</sup> TRIP

<sup>5</sup> US Census

<sup>6</sup> TRIP.

<sup>7</sup> TRIP

<sup>8</sup> TRIP

<sup>9</sup> AASHTO

<sup>10</sup> AASHTO and FHWA

<sup>11</sup> FHWA

<sup>12</sup> ASCE

- In the first 3 years of the DRIVE Act, NC will receive \$117,847,970 in addition to growth of the existing programs for freight.
- Prioritizing federal spending on interstate for projects in the national economic interest

**Long-term 6 year Certainty:**

- Total share for first 3 years of DRIVE Act: \$3,261,812,361 that the state would not get otherwise.
- 531 projects at risk without federal investment<sup>13</sup>
- Major Projects in jeopardy
  - I-85 widening in Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties- \$550m estimated cost<sup>14</sup>
- Building off NEPA reforms accomplished in MAP-21, DRIVE is cutting red tape and accelerating project delivery to increase NC's ability to efficiently finish projects.
- DRIVE delivers 6 years of certainty. 12 short term extensions since SAFETEA-LU have impeded on NC's ability to properly plan and budget for transportation projects.
- DRIVE gives NC the ability to prepare for the next 50 years. With a focus on innovation, NC can better deploy technology to improve the state transportation network.

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<sup>13</sup> AASHTO

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.goupstate.com/article/20131112/ARTICLES/131119902>