

November 21, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader, United States Senate
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer, Democratic Leader, United States Senate
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Republican Leader, United States House of Representatives

Subject: Sincere Appreciation for Repeal of the \$7.6 billion FAST Act Highway Rescission

Dear Congressional Leaders:

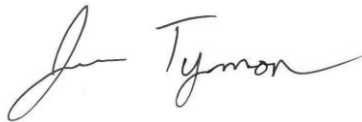
As the organization representing all 50 state departments of transportation (state DOTs), the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) writes to express our sincere gratitude for repealing Section 1438 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act in the Further Continuing Appropriations Act, and Further Health Extenders Act of 2019.

By repealing the \$7.6 billion rescission of highway contract authority originally scheduled for July 1, 2020, state DOTs and their partners will now have greater certainty in delivering critical highway and transportation improvements in every part of the country. Furthermore, by restoring federal highway funding flexibility through this repeal, states can optimize their asset management efforts which are intended to meet key national performance targets on safety, pavement, bridge, freight movement, congestion, emissions, and overall system performance.

Thank you for your leadership and support for our nation's transportation infrastructure through this much-needed legislative action. This repeal is an important first step in ensuring preservation of the annual budgetary gains enabled by the FAST Act as you guide its succeeding surface transportation reauthorization in the coming months.

If you would like to discuss further, please contact Joung Lee, AASHTO's Policy Director, at 202-624-5818 or jlee@aaashto.org.

Sincerely,



Jim Tymon
Executive Director
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

cc:

The Honorable Richard Shelby, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Susan Collins, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
The Honorable James Inhofe, Chair, Senate Armed Services Committee
The Honorable Jack Reed, Ranking Member, Senate Armed Services Committee; Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
The Honorable Mike Enzi, Chair, Senate Budget Committee
The Honorable Bernie Sanders, Ranking Member, Senate Budget Committee
The Honorable John Barrasso, Chair, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Ranking Member, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito, Chair, Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure
The Honorable Ben Cardin, Ranking Member, Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure
The Honorable Nita M. Lowey, Chair, House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable David E. Price, Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
The Honorable Adam Smith, Chair, House Armed Services Committee
The Honorable Mac Thornberry, Ranking Member, House Armed Services Committee
The Honorable John Yarmuth, Chair, House Budget Committee
The Honorable Steve Womack, Ranking Member, House Budget Committee
The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio, Chair, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
The Honorable Sam Graves, Ranking Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton, Chair, House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Highways and Transit
The Honorable Rodney Davis, Ranking Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Highways and Transit