

Western Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (WASHTO)

Resolution No. 2-08

Urging Congress to Solve the Projected Highway Trust Fund Deficiency and to Stop Rescissions

Whereas, both the Congressional Budget Office and the Government Accountability Office predict that the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund (Fund) will reach a zero balance during Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009;

Whereas, revenues from the federal Highway Trust Fund serves as most states' primary source of funding for the design, right of way, and construction of highways;

Whereas, failure to promptly provide additional money to the Fund sufficient to enable the Fund to support SAFETEA-LU funding levels will translate into a federal funding reduction for WASHTO states of \$3 billion or more below the levels called for under SAFETEA-LU legislation;

Whereas, failure to resolve this crisis and the resulting reduction of program funding below SAFETEA-LU funding levels would result in the loss of approximately 485,000 construction jobs (as estimated using USDOT projections of jobs generated by highway construction) during FFY 2009;

Whereas, the SAFETEA-LU legislation built in a rescission of state contract authority set for fiscal year 2009 in the amount of \$8 billion or more and pending FFY 2009 appropriations legislation would rescind not less than a further \$3 billion; and

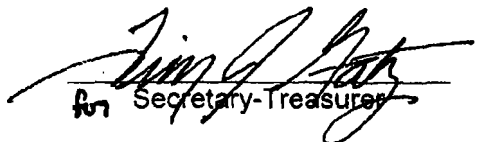
Whereas, the deficient funding of the United States highway system hampers the states' ability to reduce congestion, enhance safety, expand opportunity, and improve air quality.

Now, be it resolved, that the United States Congress immediately and appropriately act to preserve the integrity of the Highway Trust Fund and the ability of states to deliver transportation improvements and benefits by providing additional balances to the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund sufficient to at least support highway program levels called for by SAFETEA-LU.

Be it further resolved that Congress pass legislation to stop the rescission set to impact states in 2009 and to refrain from imposing further rescissions.

Approved July 21, 2008
WASHTO Board of Directors

Attest


Secretary-Treasurer