

**Western Association of State Highway
and Transportation Officials**

Resolution 3-04

Safety Sanctions Within the Federal-Aid Highway Program

Whereas, Congress has long used funding mechanisms within the Federal-Aid Highway program to compel the passage of state-level safety laws; and

Whereas, some of these mechanisms include:

- Soft sanctions that transfer funds within a state to safety programs if certain laws are not enacted;
- Hard sanctions that transfer contract and budget authority away from states absent enactment of certain laws; and
- Incentives which reward states for meeting certain legal and performance characteristics

Whereas, many associations committed to safety, including the following, have taken positions against hard funding sanctions to achieve specific state legislative outcomes:

- National Association of Governor's Highway Safety Representatives,
- National Association of Governor's.
- American Association of Highway and Transportation Officials, and
- Western Governor's Association.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the WASHTO states strongly affirm safety as a primary focus of all surface transportation programs, and

Be it further resolved, that that WASHTO states do not believe in funding sanctions that may prevent states from addressing their highest safety priorities.

Approved March 30, 2004
WASHTO Board of Directors

Attest

Secretary-Treasurer