

February 28, 2011

The Honorable John L. Mica
U.S. House of Representatives
2187 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0907

Dear Chairman Mica:

Our organizations represent drivers, riders, and businesses that pay the federal highway user fees that fund the Highway Trust Fund (HTF). One of our top goals is to ensure that user fees are properly dedicated to federal programs that improve our nation's highway safety and mobility.

This year, Congress is expected to consider a major long-term transportation bill that will reform and streamline federal highway programs, adopt new performance standards, and take steps to ensure that users of the system see real value and benefit for their investment. We look forward to working with you on this critical legislation over the course of the year.

In the interim, Congress must pass an extension of the existing authorization act, SAFETEA-LU. Congressmen Mica, Rahall, Duncan, DeFazio, and Hanna, have introduced H.R. 662, the Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2011, which extends current highway funding through the end of the fiscal year. Two weeks ago, the bill was reported out of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee by unanimous voice vote.

We hope that H.R. 662 will pass unanimously and we ask for your strong support when it is considered this week. The extension does not include any funding for earmarks and is consistent with the highway spending level proposed in the Continuing Resolution. Moreover, the Highway Trust Fund has more than enough revenue to fully fund this extension of authority. After H.R. 662 is enacted, the continuing resolution on appropriations will continue to set a spending limit on the various authorized accounts.

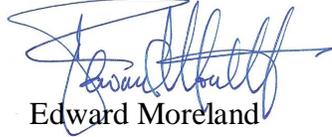
Failure to enact H.R. 662 would create more problems than simply a shutdown of government agencies. It would also halt highway projects from coast-to-coast because contractors would not be able to be reimbursed for their work. As highway users, we'd like to see these projects completed on-time and under budget.

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions about H.R. 662, please do not hesitate to contact us prior to the vote.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Darbelnet
President and CEO
AAA



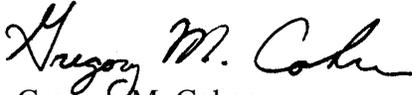
Edward Moreland
Senior Vice President, Government Relations
American Motorcyclist Association



Peter J. Pantuso
President and CEO
American Bus Association



Bill Graves
President and CEO
American Trucking Associations



Gregory M. Cohen
President and CEO
American Highway Users Alliance



Todd Spencer
Executive Vice President
Owner-Operator Independent Drivers Association