
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 941 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY TOPPER, BROWN, CIRESI, SCHLEGEL CULVER, ECKER,
GLEIM, HENNESSEY, LEE, MALAGARI, MILLARD, MIZGORSKI, MOUL,
PICKETT, POLINCHOCK, PYLE, READSHAW, SAYLOR, SCHMITT,
STRUZZI, TOEPEL, WARREN, WHEELAND AND ZIMMERMAN,
JULY 13, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JULY 13, 2020

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to allocate additional
2 sources of funding to the Federal Highway Trust Fund.

3 WHEREAS, As part of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956,
4 championed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Federal
5 Highway Trust Fund was created to fund the nation's interstate
6 highway system; and

7 WHEREAS, The Federal Highway Trust Fund predominantly
8 receives its revenue from Federal excise taxes on motor fuels,
9 which are currently at a rate of 18.4¢ per gallon on gasoline
10 and 24.4¢ per gallon on diesel; and

11 WHEREAS, The current trend across the United States is toward
12 continued decline in motor fuel tax revenues, resulting in part
13 from the advent of alternative fuels and more fuel-efficient
14 vehicles; and

15 WHEREAS, Like most states, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
16 has been required to find innovative ways to offset the decrease

1 in revenues generated from motor fuel taxes by increasing
2 various other taxes to fund its critical infrastructure; and

3 WHEREAS, The Federal Government's inaction to address this
4 issue exacerbates the problem with which many states are
5 grappling, which is having to make the unfortunate decision of
6 allocating state-generated motor fuel tax revenue to fund the
7 Federal interstate highway system even though many state and
8 local roads should be receiving those funds; and

9 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has not been immune to the Federal
10 Government's inaction to assist states with funding their
11 critical infrastructure, as illustrated by the Pennsylvania
12 Department of Transportation having to drastically alter its
13 long-term funding plan for rural planning organizations and
14 metropolitan planning organizations to remedy the poor condition
15 of Pennsylvania's portion of the interstate highway system; and

16 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth recognizes dedicating sufficient
17 funding to infrastructure is an extremely worthwhile investment
18 since a state will receive a return on that investment every
19 time a citizen travels on the state's roads; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
21 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United
22 States to allocate additional sources of funding to the Federal
23 Highway Trust Fund to ensure that the transportation
24 infrastructure in our nation is sustainable for future
25 generations; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
27 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and each member
28 of the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation.