

From: Office of the Governor Site Support
Sent: 10/13/2014 11:43:51 PM
To: Haley, Nikki
Cc:
Subject: Reform the DOT, Don't Hike our Taxes

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Message:
Clifton Atkinson
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Charleston, SC 29407

October 13, 2014

1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

I understand the state legislature is considering a massive gas tax of 10 cents on the gallon added to our already high 16.5 cent/gallon gas tax. This would hike gas taxes for South Carolinians by 60%, and would be particularly difficult for fixed-income families and neighborhood businesses.

A gas tax this high could put the brakes on South Carolina's economic comeback.

In addition to the economic impact, is the issue of trust. It is absolutely true that many of our roads and bridges are in need of repair. However, implementing a 60% Gas Tax hike without any serious reform to the state Department of Transportation is irresponsible.

The proponents of the tax hike want to throw more of our money at a department, and budgetary process, that is in serious need of reform. Currently all Gas Tax revenue collected ends up in the state general fund where legislators have full discretion over how it is spent. There is no accountability of where our money is going, nor is it dedicated to only repair roads and bridges.

Please support reform, not a higher gas tax. I'll be watching the state legislature's actions and hope you will stand up for our state's taxpayers.

Sincerely,
Clifton Atkinson