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Date: 2/24/2016 3:30:20 PM
Subject: ICYMI: Pressure Mounting on SC Senate to Vote to Fix Roads

Good afternoon –

Just wanted to make sure you all saw the recent coverage regarding the Senate roads debate and the mounting pressure for them to put an end to the inaction and begin voting on roads. The Chamber continues to call on our Senators to vote this week and announced today [#SCSPEAKSOUT](#) for roads which allows citizens to join the call to action to fix our roads once and for all. In addition, South Carolinians can still [email their senator directly by going to our website](#). Momentum is building around the state for the Senate to take a vote and we urge them to do so this week. While members of the Senate continue to participate in this traffic jam on the chamber floor, our citizens continue to be put at risk on our deteriorating roads and bridges. A quote from our president is below. – Gena

Ted Pitts, President & CEO, SC Chamber: *"The Senate needs to pass a roads bill this week. South Carolinians are tired of hearing our senators tell us they agree that we need to fix our unsafe roads and structurally deficient bridges, but then never seeing a vote on the issue. The business community is taking notice of the Senate's continued inaction and we urge senators to do their job and vote to pass a roads package that increases funding, holds the DOT accountable, and fixes our roads and bridges once and for all."*

PRESSURE BUILDS ON SC SENATE TO PASS ROADS BILL...

"Pressure is mounting on senators. The South Carolina Chamber of Commerce is calling on its members to tell their senators to end the filibuster and vote on a bill this week." – [Associated Press 2/23/16](#)

"The S.C. Chamber of Commerce is pressuring state senators to pass a road-repair bill when they return to Columbia Tuesday. 'The business community is taking notice of the Senate's continued inaction, and we urge senators to do their job and vote to pass a roads package that increases funding, holds the (Transportation Department) accountable, and fixes our roads and bridges once and for all,' said chamber president Ted Pitts" – [Cassie Cope, The State, 2/22/16](#)

"Also, the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce is calling on its members to tell their senators to end the filibuster and vote on a roads bill this week." – [Associated Press 2/23/16](#)

"The S.C. Chamber of Commerce has issued an "action alert" to members to call their state senators and tell them to end a filibuster that has blocked action on a roads package." – [Charleston Regional Business Report, 2/23/16](#)

"The South Carolina Chamber of Commerce on Monday asked members to contact senators and demand that they begin voting, citing accidents on Interstate 85 in the Upstate as one reason the state cannot afford to wait any longer. 'There is a wreck every three hours on I-85 in South Carolina,' the chamber told its members. 'That means, while our state senators debate, eight accidents are happening per day, 56 accidents are happening per week, 240 accidents per month just on I-85 alone. All the while, our state senators continue to debate, filibuster and kick the can down the road.'" – [Tim Smith, Greenville News, 2/23/16](#)

"SC Chamber of Commerce President, Ted Pitts, said he's for both D.O.T. reform and raising revenues through the gas tax. 'To get to 600 million, we think we need to diversify those revenue streams,' Pitts said. "The business community has spoken clearly that the infrastructure's not acceptable.'" – [Joyce Koh, WLTX, 2/23/16](#)

"Chamber President Ted Pitts said.. 'And quite frankly, it continues to frustrate the business community that we keep being told 'we want to fix our infrastructure,' but we're not seeing any sizable actions to get to the issue.'" – [Gavin Jackson, Post & Courier, 2/23/16](#)

"SC roads cost you time and money says SC Chamber of Commerce. The SC Chamber of Commerce says the poor road

in SC are costing you time and money. The SCCC says that rough roads cost drivers \$1.1 billion in extra vehicle operating costs. They say that only 29% of resident are driving on what is considered "good" pavement in the state. Almost half of primary roads are considered 'poor.'" – [WBTW, 2/23/16](#)

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