

State of Washington House of Representatives



February 20, 2020

Senator Hobbs and Representative Fey:

We the undersigned write to thank you for your work in addressing our state's transportation revenue shortfall. Even before the impacts of Initiative 976, we faced billions of dollars of needs to address fish passage barriers, fund preservation and maintenance of our roads, construct new ferries, grow multimodal transportation options, and build projects of statewide significance such as the Columbia River Crossing and the US 2 trestle. Initiative 976 only made these challenges harder.

We are committed to working with you to achieve a state transportation revenue package in 2021 to address these needs. We welcome the consideration of multiple options, including an increase in the motor vehicle fuel tax, a road usage charge, a carbon tax on transportation fuels, systemwide tolling, and an economywide cap-and-invest program.

We also are committed to making significant progress on reducing harmful greenhouse gas emissions across our economy, but particularly in the transportation fuel sector, which is by far the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Washington and the only major sector in which this Legislature has not enacted meaningful policies.

We see passage of a clean fuel standard as a precondition to the passage of a transportation revenue package. As urgent as our transportation infrastructure needs are, the climate crisis is also urgent. We owe it to current and future generations of Washingtonians to begin on a trajectory to decarbonize the transportation sector before it is too late.

We believe passage of both a clean fuel standard and a transportation revenue package in the same legislative session would bring considerable difficulty and risk. However, invite you to consider adding the attached language to E2SHB 1110 that would make the enforcement of a clean fuel standard contingent upon the passage of a transportation revenue package that raises no less than \$2 billion per biennium for the aforementioned unmet transportation needs.

Thank you for your dedication to our state's prosperity and our future.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures and names of representatives, including: 49, 34, 40, 36, 45, 43, 21, 38, 1, 5, 11, 22, 24, 32, 33, 34, 36, 48, 49, 51, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

CC: Speaker Jenkins, Senator Billig, Senator Carlyle, Senator Saldaña, Senator Liias