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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4012

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives R. Fisher, Wilson, Schmidt, Prentice, Wood, Cooper, R. Meyers, Heavey, Chandler, R. Johnson, Forner, P. Johnson, Mitchell, Brough, Haugen, Zellinsky, Jones, Kremen, Cantwell, Holland, Rasmussen, Nealey, Paris, Horn and Ferguson.

Read first time February 14, 1991.      Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8            WHEREAS, Congress, in its budget resolution recognized the  
9 importance of the "user fee principal" as a sound means of funding the  
10 highway program; and

11           WHEREAS, Preservation, protection, and continuation of this means  
12 of highway funding is vital to the nation's highway program; and

13           WHEREAS, Congress has for too long held back Highway Trust Fund  
14 moneys from their intended use in order to make it appear that the  
15 Federal deficit is not as large as it actually is; and

16           WHEREAS, Congress in its efforts to reduce the Federal deficit,  
17 passed a five-cent motor fuel tax increase of which two and one-half

1 cents was earmarked for the Highway Trust Fund (two cents to highways  
2 and one-half cent to transit); and

3 WHEREAS, It should be noted that the five-cent motor fuel tax  
4 increase is scheduled to expire in 1995; and

5 WHEREAS, Two and one-half cents motor fuel tax earmarked for the  
6 Highway Trust Fund cannot, under present provisions of the law, be  
7 spent but must remain and accumulate in the Trust Fund Balance; and

8 WHEREAS, The moneys accumulated in the Highway Trust Fund balance  
9 are sorely needed by the states to use for work on their interstates  
10 and primary and secondary highway programs;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress  
12 make the two and one-half cent motor fuel tax available for immediate  
13 obligation to the states in the 1991 fiscal year; or if not immediately  
14 obligated to the states, that the states be allowed to use the advance  
15 construction interstate program currently in effect for that portion of  
16 the two and one-half cents that would be obligated to the state so that  
17 state moneys may be used now, and repayed when the two and one-half  
18 cents is obligated to the states; that in 1995 when the five-cent motor  
19 fuel tax is due to expire, that it be extended and earmarked for the  
20 Highway Trust Fund and dedicated solely to highway purposes; and that  
21 state and local determination be allowed on whether the Highway Trust  
22 Fund Transit Moneys be used for transit or highways.

23 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately sent to  
24 the Honorable George Bush, President of the United States, the  
25 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
26 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
27 Washington.