

ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

Increased Adoption of Electric Vehicles Requires New Funding Sources for the Highway Trust Fund

Action Needed:

Congress must pass S. 2882, the *Stop EV Freeloading Act*, sponsored by Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) to ensure electric vehicle owners no longer get a free ride and contribute to maintaining our roads, bridges, and transit systems.

Background:

The Highway Trust Fund (HTF) has played a pivotal role in supporting the nation's transportation infrastructure and financing highway and transit projects. However, HTF revenues—primarily sourced from federal fuel taxes and other fees—are declining. The rise of fuel-efficient, hybrid, and electric vehicles (EVs) have significantly reduced contributions to the HTF. EVs, which do not pay into the HTF, exacerbate this revenue decline, jeopardizing our nation's ability to maintain and improve critical infrastructure.

AGC Message:

- **Support the Stop EV Freeloading Act.** This legislation sponsored by Senator Deb Fischer (R-Neb.) would ensure stable and consistent funding for the HTF through an EV user fee. Congress has encouraged this shift to EVs through tax credits for EV purchases, but it has not addressed the resulting revenue shortfall. In addition, Americans are not equally sharing the tax burden to fund our nation's infrastructure with EV drivers “freeloading” on the system. To ensure all road users contribute equitably to maintaining and expanding America's infrastructure, Congress must implement an EV user fee.
- **Address the impact of heavier EVs.** EVs generally weigh more than traditional internal combustion engine vehicles, contributing to greater wear and tear on roads and bridges. This added weight not only increases the need for more frequent maintenance but also necessitates upgrades to safety features such as guardrails and barriers to accommodate the higher forces involved in collisions with heavier vehicles. As the nation's vehicle fleet becomes heavier, funding must increase to cover both the additional maintenance and the necessary safety upgrades to ensure our roads remain safe for all users.