

Sample letter to Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell:

Governor Edward G. Rendell's Office
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Governor Rendell:

The decision to toll Interstate 80 was made in haste by a slim majority, without a single public hearing or any other opportunity for those most affected by this change to comment.

Interstate 80 is part of the Federal Highway System, already paid for with federal funds and intended to be a free system of transportation to help promote interstate commerce. Adding tolls to Interstate 80 will make both of Pennsylvania's major east-west highways toll roads, diminishing its competitiveness in the national and global marketplaces. It also will divert heavy traffic from the interstate highway to secondary roadways, accelerating wear, increasing local maintenance costs and decreasing safety.

The trucking industry already pays dearly to travel on our nation's roadways through fuels taxes, license plates and other fees. Tolling Interstate 80 will only add to this burden. The fortunate ones will simply pass those costs along to consumers. The unfortunate ones will be unable to do so, and will be put out of business altogether.

In light of all this, it is no surprise that a 2005 study performed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation recommended the Commonwealth not pursue adding tolls to Interstate 80

Because none of the stakeholders were given an opportunity to comment on how detrimental the addition of tolls would be on their operations, and because PennDOT itself concluded tolling Interstate 80 was a bad idea, I ask you to give favorable consideration to House Bill 1878 and repeal Act 44.

Thank you in advance for your time and attention.