



Testimony of the American Council of Engineering Companies of CT  
Before the Banking Committee  
In Opposition to  
SB 150, An Act Establishing the Connecticut Infrastructure Authority

March 2, 2021

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Connecticut (ACEC-CT) represents almost 2,000 highly skilled engineers employed by 60 member-companies located throughout the state. A significant goal of the organization is to educate and promote a better understanding of the infrastructure needs of the state and its residents.

Our concerns with this proposal echo the comments made by the Connecticut State Department of Transportation-creating a duplication of efforts and tapping into the same funding sources.

To be specific, it would appear that this proposal is duplicative of the DOTs already established legislative authority. Any duplication of efforts often creates confusion and the overlapping of funding sources that the new authority would receive could jeopardize the Department's grant applications for Federal Transportation Funds from the US DOT.

Funds that the newly created Authority would receive from US DOT would come from the existing set of federal funds that CTDOT accesses and relies on for the state's own infrastructure program. Clearly, this approach to funding would interfere with CTDOT's current 5-year Capital Plan for state of good repair and new infrastructure projects.

According to the CTDOT, the Special Transportation Fund (STF) already faces structural deficits within the next decade and without the proposed STF revenue under the Governor's budget, this financial problem is immediately around the corner in FY25.

Diverting any funding away from the Special Transportation Fund to support this new authority does not seem to be the best use of transportation funding given the projected deficits that already exist. In fact, we should be exploring options to add additional revenue streams to the fund.

Without the proposed revenue from the Governor or another solution to solve the structural imbalance, the STF is at already risk of having to significantly reduce funding for capital infrastructure projects, which will lead to a reduction in CTDOT's available federal matching funds.

Given these concerns, we urge your opposition to SB 150.