



April 26, 2010

The Honorable Melissa Bean
U.S. Congresswoman
432 Cannon House Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Bean:

On behalf of the more than 70 organizations that are members of the Transportation for Illinois Coalition, we are writing to urge you to oppose efforts to change the distribution of federal highway money during the current year's extension of the SAFETEA-LU transportation authorization. The apparent agreement between Chairman Oberstar and Senate Leader Reid to change the distribution of funds would cost the State of Illinois \$119 million this year.

This change would be unprecedented, as well as harmful. Historically, distribution formulas are changed when a new authorization measure is drafted, not before. While we support Chairman Oberstar's effort to win approval of a new multi-year authorization measure, we have to oppose his attempt to take funds intended for the State of Illinois and redistribute them to other states.

Sincerely,

Michael Kleinik
Director, Chicago Laborers District Council-LMCC
TFIC Co-Chair

Douglas L. Whitley
President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce
TFIC Co-Chair