

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 18, 2015

The Honorable John Thune
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science and
Transportation
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Nelson
Ranking Member
Committee Commerce, Science and
Transportation
425 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Thune and Ranking Member Nelson:

As you continue your work on the surface transportation reauthorization bill, we write to request that you include language from S. 127, the Stop Motorcycle Checkpoint Funding Act, in the bill.

S. 127 would make it unlawful for the Secretary of Transportation to provide grants to a state, county, town, township, Native American tribe, municipality or other local government that could be used for any program to check for motorcycle helmet usage or create a checkpoint for motorcyclists.

Discriminatory motorcycle-only checkpoints have been employed extensively in New York State, during large motorcycle events in neighboring states and at motorcycling events across the country, including routes in Georgia leading to Daytona Bike Week, during Operation Rolling Thunder in Washington, D.C., and at a World Superbike competition near Salt Lake City, Utah.

We believe that motorcycle-only checkpoints unfairly target motorcyclists and are an inefficient use of federal safety grants. Language prohibiting Department of Transportation grants from being used for these purposes merits inclusion in the surface transportation reauthorization bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

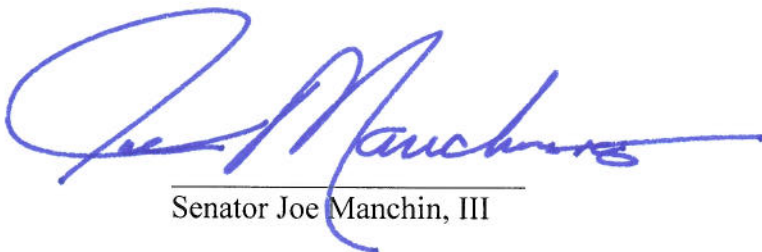
Sincerely,



Senator Jeanne Shaheen



Senator Susan M. Collins



Senator Joe Manchin, III



Senator Kelly Ayotte

Ron Johnson

Senator Ron Johnson

Joni K Ernst

Senator Joni Ernst
