



House Transportation Committee

September 23, 2021

Dear House Transportation Committee:

Thank you for allowing testimony submissions for the proposed tolling of nine bridges throughout Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania's recreation vehicle and camping industry will be greatly affected by the proposed bridge tolls. RVing is an affordable and safe way to travel, especially in these times. Adding additional obstacles to those traveling will be a detriment to not only those who are on the road, but to RV and camping industries in Pennsylvania.

RVers are known to evaluate routes before they leave home. If they find that traveling to Pennsylvania is going to cost them more money, they will choose to go somewhere else. If the rate is more expensive for dual axles or tow vehicles, RVers would be greatly impacted as well. A consideration should also be made to the transport companies that deliver units from the manufacturer to the local dealers as delivery fees would need to be increase creating additional costs to the consumer.

Tolls would not only affect RVers, but also the campgrounds that serve as their destination. If less people travel to PA, then less people will be renting spots at the campgrounds. RVing has skyrocketed and it is projected to continue on this path for the next few years. The RV Industry Association just reported the best July shipment rate on record. The latest report noted that we would hit 600,000 RVs shipped in 2021. That's 600,000 more RVs on the road and 600,000 potential customers to PA campgrounds.

Many get into RVing because it is an economical way to travel. If they determine that Pennsylvania is too costly to visit, there are 49 other states out there from which they could choose, which would not be good for PA tourism.

Sincerely,

The Pennsylvania Recreation Vehicle and Camping Association

Heather Leach
Executive Director