

more significant, however, that the funds for these programs are collected from those who use the highways, with the pledge that they will be used for that purpose.

For this reason, I am asking you, as a representative of the State of Minnesota, to urge action that will halt the manipulation of the Highway Trust Fund. Work for legislation, if necessary, to prevent further delays and reductions in the allocation of funds for highway programs. Stay the hand of the President and his Administration from diminishing the flow of this dedicated revenue. Keep the Highway Trust Fund inviolate by insuring the disbursement of funds as soon as they are available.

Sincerely,

HAROLD LEVANDER,
Governor.

STATE OF MINNESOTA,
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
St. Paul, May 11, 1968.

Hon. ANCHER NELSEN,
*Member of Congress,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR ANCHER: I need not remind you I am sure, of the tremendous adverse impact which President Johnson's cut-backs in federal highway funds have already had on Minnesota. I do urge you, however, to bend every effort towards protecting the allotment of Federal Aid Highway Trust Funds from future hold-back or cut-back as a part of the proposed \$6 billion reduction in federal spending.

The Highway Trust Fund is a dedicated fund of highway user taxes and consequently should have no direct relationship to budgetary adjustments or be subject to capricious administrative manipulation.

By way of a reminder only, Minnesota on June 30, 1968 will be \$51.8 million short of the \$111 million allotted. On the other hand, the Highway Trust Fund which, on December 31, 1965 had a \$9 million balance and on December 31, 1966 a \$30 million balance will, on June 30, 1968, have a balance as established by the Bureau of Public Roads of \$930 million in monies paid into it by taxpayers of this country for highway construction and improvement.

Sincerely yours,

HAROLD LEVANDER,
Governor.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, HIGHWAY INTERIM COMMISSION,
St. Paul, Minn., March 13, 1968.

Representative ANCHER NELSEN,
*Longworth House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE NELSEN: Thank you very much for the prompt attention which your office gave to my request of February 13 for copies of H.R. 14932.

On February 23 the Minnesota Legislative Interim Commission on Highways, meeting at the State Capitol in St. Paul, considered and unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, the Minnesota Legislative Interim Commission on Highways has previously gone on record as opposing cutbacks in Federal funds obligated to the States for highway construction; and

Whereas, the Commission has held that such cutbacks result in costly and dangerous delays in the completion of Minnesota's Interstate highway system; and

Whereas, Representative Ancher Nelsen of Minnesota has introduced H.R. 14932, a bill to amend Title 23, United States Code, in regard to the obligation of Federal-aid highway funds apportioned to the States; and

Whereas, such bill would prevent the withholding of Federal-aid highway funds apportioned to the States except when necessary to maintain a balance in the highway trust fund; now therefore

Be it resolved, that the Minnesota Legislative Interim Commission on Highways strongly urges the prompt passage of H.R. 14932 by the Congress of the United States.