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February 2, 2012

House Ways and Means Committee Would Eliminate Historical Funding Source

The House Ways and Means Committee has released the tax title of the American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act of 2012 – the House of Representatives surface transportation authorization bill.

The Ways and Means Committee title makes drastic changes by eliminating the use of motor fuel tax revenues for public transportation, revenues that have been dedicated to public transportation for nearly 30 years. These revenues, which currently go to public transportation, will generate \$25 billion in funding over the 5 year life of the bill, and would support nearly half of the authorized funding for public transportation. This legislation would eliminate the use of the Mass Transit Account's motor fuel revenue for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 for public transportation. The bill eliminates the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund and creates the new Alternative Transportation Account that would provide funding for public transportation, the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Control (CMAQ) program, and several other programs. Dedicated funding for the new account has not yet been identified.

APTA strongly opposes this proposal. This reallocation of funds would eliminate a dependable and predictable source of funding for much needed investment in the nation's transportation infrastructure.

The Ways and Means mark-up is scheduled for 9am on Friday February 3, 2012.

ACTION ALERT

I. Please call your Congressional delegation today, especially members of the House Ways and Means Committee, and urge them to leave fuel tax revenues untouched. House of Representatives main line: 202-224-3121

II. Stress to your Congressional delegation that there is still time to correct this problem. Urge them to make these provisions a priority in the surface transportation legislation.

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