

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 9, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
H-232, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor
Majority Leader
H-329, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Mica
Chairman
House Committee on Transportation
and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Doc Hastings
Chairman
House Committee on Natural
Resources
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Speaker Boehner, Majority Leader Cantor, Chairman Mica, Chairman Hastings,

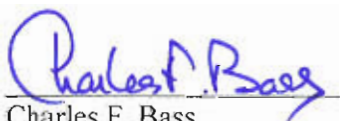
We write to express concern with exploration and development of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) as a partial funding offset for the long-term surface transportation reauthorization bill.

Successfully passing a long-term transportation reauthorization bill that is fiscally responsible and provides the states the necessary resources to plan and invest in America's future is a goal we all share. We agree that it is imperative for Congress to pass a long-term reauthorization bill that is paid for in order to provide stability for our nation's highway and infrastructure projects. In writing you today, we do not want to negate the hard work that the members of the respective committees have put into crafting this legislation, and we appreciate that they have considered a wide array of potential funding sources and issues. However, opening ANWR for exploration and development raises serious questions from both a fiscal and environmental perspective; we believe that this measure can achieve broader support and better force Senate consideration if ANWR were removed.

The development of ANWR has been debated for more than 50 years, and current law explicitly prohibits oil and natural gas leasing in the Refuge. Given the challenges associated with the reopening of ANWR, we believe this transportation proposal will begin to merit greater support if the debate over funding mechanisms looks beyond future exploration.

We recognize the challenges you face in determining on how to best maintain our nation's roads and bridges and it is our hope that a long-term infrastructure bill moves through the Congress.

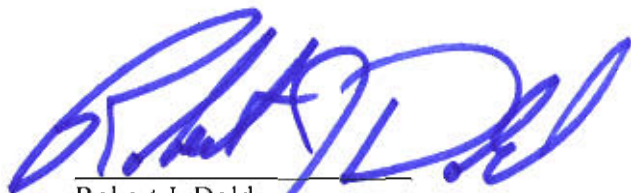
Sincerely,



Charles F. Bass
Member of Congress



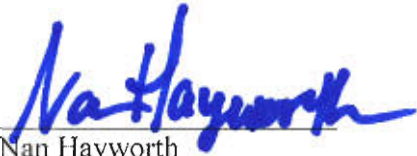
David Reichert
Member of Congress



Robert J. Dold
Member of Congress



Mike Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Nan Hayworth
Member of Congress



Timothy W. Johnson
Member of Congress