

## ACTION ALERT FROM DEBBIE SPAUGH, GCRWC LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

This is an Action Alert regarding the "Roads Bill", H.3579, which was amended by the Senate (Amendment 31A), passed on 3/9/2016, and returned to the House.

As I pointed out in my article in the GCRWC March Newsletter, the Senate version did remove the gas tax hike, but failed to make real reforms to the transportation funding system. The House will probably take up H.3579, with Amendment 31A the week of April 11th.

We need to call or email our State Representatives and urge them to kill the bill. The citizens of South Carolina want real reforms, such as: Make the Governor and a Secretary of Transportation accountable for the SCDOT; eliminate the DOT Commission (which is still mainly controlled by Legislative leaders); and eliminate the State Transportation Infrastructure Bank, which has spent more than \$4 Billion in only 10 of 46 counties, with 19% of that to Senator Hugh Leatherman's district.

The best outcome is for the House to kill the bill. In that case, next year South Carolinians would have another chance to have real reforms made to transportation funding.

Another outcome may be that the House concurs with the Senate's amended version of H.3579, and sends it to the Governor to sign. If this occurs, it will probably be years before any efforts will be made to have transparency and accountability with the transportation funding system.

A third, and even worse outcome, will be that the bill will go to a conference committee, where a gas tax hike could be added back in to the bill.

**PLEASE CONTACT YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE BY APRIL 12th ABOUT THIS BILL!**

Thank you,

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