

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 25, 2019

Dear Colleague:

Did you know that the highest tax levied by Congress is on new heavy-duty trucks?

Originally levied in 1917, the federal excise tax (FET) on heavy-duty trucks was created to help pay for World War I. In 102 years since then, it has increased from just 3% to 12%. Today, FET revenue goes into the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) and has been the most volatile funding stream for the HTF over the past twenty years.

For most truck purchases, the tax amounts to a more than \$20,000 tax bill per truck. This cost is often prohibitive for truck buyers, encouraging them to hold onto their older truck longer or purchase a used truck, rather than investing in the latest environmental and safety technologies. Repealing the FET to help modernize the truck fleet would benefit the environment and increase safety on our roadways — for both the truck driver and all others on the road.

That's why we will soon introduce the "Modern, Clean and Safe Trucks Act of 2019," which would repeal the centenarian FET on heavy-duty trucks. Ridding our truck fleets of this tax and replacing it with an alternative funding mechanism for the Highway Trust Fund is a crucial step in encouraging economic growth, ensuring greater safety for our constituents on the road, and promoting cleaner more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Your support as an original cosponsor is vital for our efforts to ensure FET repeal is included in upcoming infrastructure legislation. We hope you will join us. Please contact John Veale in Representative Doug LaMalfa's office at john.veale@mail.house.gov or Richard Lee in Representative Collin Peterson's office at richard.lee@mail.house.gov by **Monday, April 29** to become an original co-sponsor.

It's time to modernize the truck fleet and get cleaner, safer trucks on the road.

Sincerely,


Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress


Collin Peterson
Member of Congress