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PENCE SAYS HIGHWAY BILL MUST BE “FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE AND FAIR TO DONOR STATE

Congressman praises decision to create highway bill with no gasoline tax increase

Washington, Apr 1, 2004 - Washington, DC - Congressman Mike Pence gave the following speech on the floor of the U.S. House today regarding the Transportation Equity Act currently under consideration. Pence’s remarks follow:

“Since the days of the Roman Empire, nations have understood the connection between roads, prosperity and national security.

“Today, Congress will deliberate on a new highway bill that I will support only if it can be fiscally responsible and fair to so-called ‘donor states’ like Indiana.

“But I rise at the outset of this debate to congratulate Chairman Young and the membership of the Transportation Committee for resisting the temptation to raise gasoline taxes.

“With the news this morning that OPEC will be cutting production and raising the cost of crude, and that gasoline is at $3 per gallon on the West Coast, I am personally grateful to the chairman of the Transportation Committee and all of its membership for saying, with regard to this highway bill, ‘no new taxes.’”

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