2015 Legislative Update:
State Actions on Transportation Funding and Finance

NRI Spring Webinar Series
May 29th, 2015
Kevin Pula, Policy Associate, NCSL Transportation Program
2015 Legislative Sessions

- 22 states, D.C. and PR are in regular session
- Three states are in special session
- 49 states have considered at least 500 bills
- 25 states have enacted 55 bills
Transportation Infrastructure Investment is a Top State Issue

- In 2013 and 2014, at least 748 relevant bills considered in every state and D.C., and at least 500 bills have already been introduced in 2015.

- NCSL’s executive committee named transportation funding, infrastructure, and the highway trust fund the number one state/federal priority.
State/Local Share Increasing

% of investment in transportation and water infrastructure

Sources: Congressional Budget Office, Moody’s Analytics
The Value of State Gas Taxes Has Fallen...

- Only 13 states have raised their gas tax by more than 10 cpg since 1993.
- 15 states have not raised their gas tax in over 20 years.
- Motor fuel tax revenues account for 1.6 percent (2011) of total state and local general revenues. Down from 2.3 percent in 1993.
- Small increases have lagged behind funding needs.

Sources: Tax Policy Center, 2014; ITEP, 2015; NCSL, 2014
States Seek Sustainable Transportation Funding

As states begin to realize the potential issues with the sustainability of a gas tax, they are looking at a wide range of other possibilities.

- Tracking with the economy
- Capturing all users
How Have States Funded Surface Transportation?

Note: States provide about half of all funding for roads, bridges, rail and transit—compared to the federal contribution of about 20 percent.
Fees for Electric and Alternate Fuel Vehicles

Passed 2015 legislation

Special Fees on Electric Vehicles

Adopted special fees for electric vehicles
Vehicle-Miles Traveled

- 12 states considered 15 bills
- Oregon will launch OReGO in July
  - 1.5 cents per mile
  - Proof-of-concept
  - Mechanisms to alleviate privacy concerns
Transportation Funding Packages

- **Mississippi** - $200 million bond package
- **Massachusetts** - $200 million bond package
- **North Dakota** - $450 million for ND DOT
- **Ohio** - $7 billion 2-year transportation budget

- Failed to pass
  - Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and others
Transportation Resources

Kevin Pula
NCSL Transportation Program
Direct line: 303-856-1373
kevin.pula@ncsl.org

For details about specific state bills, see NCSL's online, searchable Transportation Funding and Finance Legislation Database:
http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?TabId=25720

You can find databases for other transportation topics on our website:
http://www.ncsl.org/research/transportation.aspx

Transportation Topics covered by NCSL

• Funding and Finance
• Traffic safety
• Distracted/Impaired Driving
• Autonomous Vehicles
• Public Transportation
• Bike/Ped Issues
• Access and Mobility
• Aviation
• Car/Ride Sharing
• And many more