



June 10, 2019

Dear Legislators,

The transportation budget omnibus motion from the June 6<sup>th</sup> Joint Finance Committee (JFC) meeting contained a proposal creating a study on the use of per mile fees in Wisconsin. Per mile fees would require drivers in Wisconsin to somehow report their mileage driven over the previous year to the government and then pay a fee for those miles driven.

This so-called “study” approved by JFC would also give the Committee the complete authority to institute a per mileage fee program without any additional oversight from the entirety of the legislature or the executive branch. The language does not limit what the fee could be or how much tracking the government can do of your driving. ***A mere 16 members of a legislative committee would determine if the government can track your mileage and charge you a yet-to-be-determined fee – an unprecedented authority for a legislative committee.***

The transportation budget passed by JFC includes other revenue increases, paid for by hardworking Wisconsinites. The increases in title fees and annual registrations fees can and should be enough. We need to focus on sustainable transportation funding, which includes many of the reforms to the Department introduced by your colleagues, not an invasive and costly per mile fee.

***Allowing a large and controversial fee to be ushered into this state without proper oversight is a dangerous precedent to set for our democracy and the legislative process. This proposal must be eliminated from the state budget.***

**The Bottom Line:**

The policy included in the June 6<sup>th</sup> transportation omnibus motion that gives the Joint Committee on Finance unilateral authority to impose a per mile fee on Wisconsinites is a dangerous precedent to set for our democracy, our privacy and our pocketbooks. This provision must be removed from the budget.