



Governor Charlie Baker  
Massachusetts State House  
24 Beacon Street, Room 280  
Boston, MA 02133

June 7, 2021

Dear Governor Baker,

On behalf of the members of the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance, we implore your administration to reconsider its position and withdraw from the quickly deteriorating and harmful Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI).

On Friday, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont reached a deal with Connecticut lawmakers, deciding that TCI will not advance in their state this year, signaling the end of TCI in Connecticut. Originally started with twelve states, the only states that remain are Massachusetts and Rhode Island. While MassFiscal applauds your administration's efforts to reduce pollution, it's clear that the overwhelming majority of states that share this goal have agreed that TCI is not the way to accomplish this. TCI is no longer a workable approach and will only inflict economic harm on Massachusetts residents if pursued any further. Even sympathetic organizations like the Sierra Club have withdrawn support for TCI, as more and more advocates and stakeholders come to the realization that TCI simply isn't viable, and could do more harm than good.

On Thursday, TCI has a webinar scheduled. Withdrawing Massachusetts from the failing and controversial scheme prior to Thursday would signal to Massachusetts taxpayers and small businesses that your administration is serious about an economic recovery and wants to avoid wasting Massachusetts taxpayer's money on TCI.

At this point, there is no critical mass. Massachusetts residents will overwhelmingly be on the hook for this failing and widely controversial program. Independent studies have predicted a much higher anticipated cost on gas prices than what TCI originally released, and the studies have also predicted diesel prices to be exponentially higher, something TCI never bothered to publicize. What was a once noble goal has run its course. It's time to do the right thing and exit this futile agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurie Belsito".

Laurie Belsito  
Policy Director