



January 15, 2020

Majority of Connecticut Voters Support Instituting Tolls on Trucks

Survey Findings

To: Interested Parties

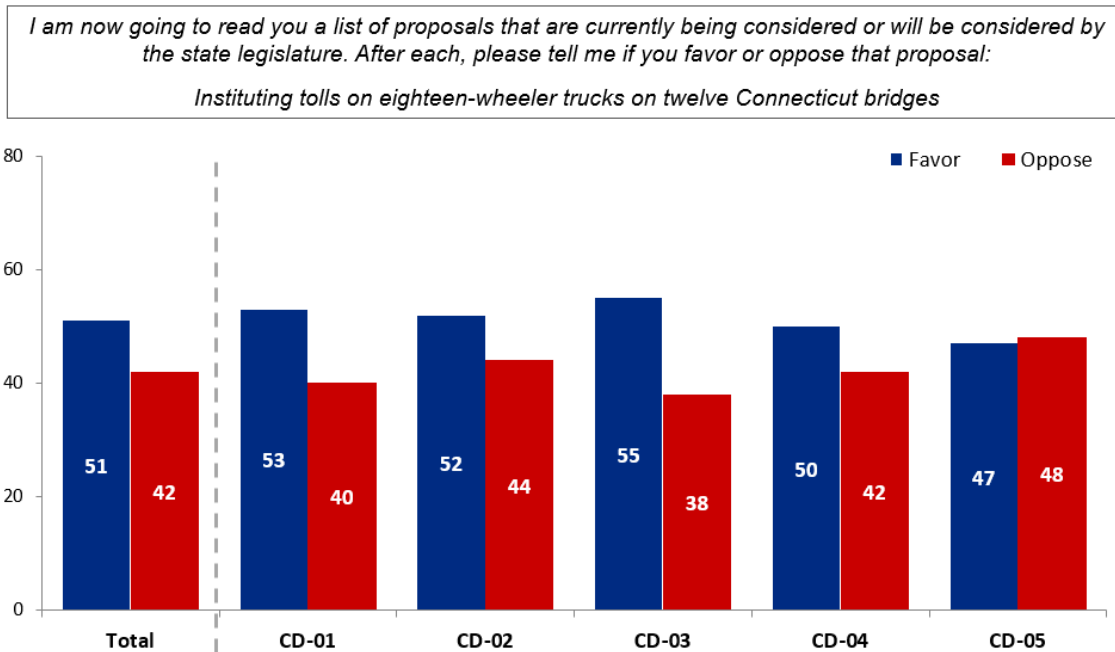
From: GQR

A recent survey of likely voters in Connecticut finds majority support for instituting tolls on 18-wheeler trucks on twelve Connecticut bridges.¹ Support for tolls on trucks swells to nearly two-thirds after voters hear more about a long-term, comprehensive transportation plan that would use the toll revenue to fund important infrastructure projects.

A 51 percent majority of voters favor instituting tolls on 18-wheeler trucks, while just 42 percent oppose the idea. Support hovers above the majority threshold across most of the state and reaches 55 percent in the 3rd Congressional District. Independent voters favor instituting tolls on trucks by a 12-point margin (52 percent favor - 40 percent oppose). Moderates, Democrats, independent women, and college educated voters all favor the proposal by significant margins from the outset.

¹ GQR conducted a survey of 500 likely 2020 General Election voters in Connecticut. The survey was conducted by live interviewers from January 6-9, 2020 and is subject to a margin of error of +/- 4.4 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence interval. Margin of error is higher among subgroups.

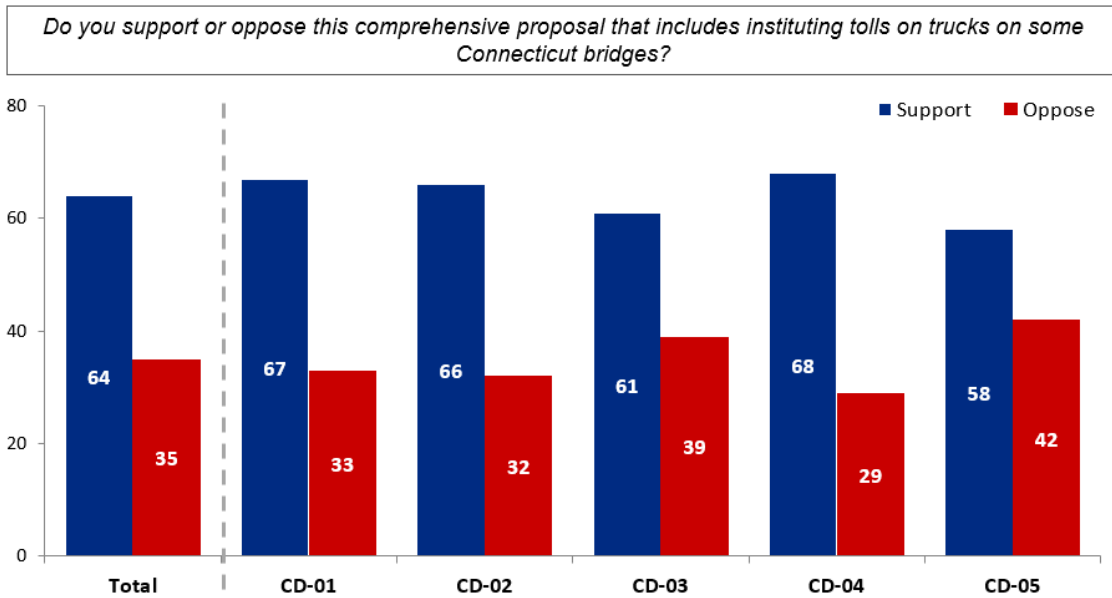
▪ **Figure 1: Initial support for tolls on trucks**



After hearing more information about the proposal, support for instituting tolls on 18-wheeler trucks climbs to a strong 64 percent majority. Just over one-third of voters remain opposed. The language tested below increases support for tolls on trucks among voters in every demographic group and across all parts of the state, including among voters in the 5th Congressional District who were initially divided. Among independent voters, 62 percent support the proposal while 36 percent remain opposed.

As you may know, there is a new comprehensive transportation plan designed to reduce commuter drive times, fix crumbling roads and bridges, and reduce emissions that cause climate change. The goal is to create a sustainably funded long-term plan to fix Connecticut's infrastructure. As part of this plan, Connecticut would institute tolls on eighteen-wheeler trucks on twelve of Connecticut's bridges. The revenue from the tolls on trucks would be put in a dedicated fund for improvements to transportation and matched with seven hundred and fifty million dollars from the federal government. It will also make Connecticut eligible for low-interest federal loans.

- Figure 2: Informed support for tolls on trucks



Conclusion

Voters in Connecticut largely support instituting tolls on 18-wheeler trucks on twelve of the state’s bridges. Support for tolls on trucks grows considerably in the context of a comprehensive plan to fix Connecticut’s transportation infrastructure, reduce congestion, and tackle climate change.