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November 8, 2016

Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development  
Dr. Shawn Wilson  
1201 Capitol Access Rd  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
[Shawn.Wilson@LA.GOV](mailto:Shawn.Wilson@LA.GOV)

Dear Secretary Wilson:

I write to you on behalf of the Louisiana Oil Marketers and Convenience Store Association (LOMCSA), whose members own, operate, or supply 3,600 convenience stores, service stations, and other retail motor fuel outlets in Louisiana. These businesses supply nearly 3.7 billion gallons of fuel annually to Louisiana motorists, as well as to most of the state's commercial end-users such as farmers, construction firms, and state and local government.

I currently serve as President of the Louisiana Oil Marketers and Convenience Store Association. My family has been in the oil marketing and convenience store business for over 70 years. Many of the members of our organization are second, third and even fourth generation wholesalers.

Our association recognizes that transportation funding is an important issue and we thank the Governor's Task Force on Transportation Infrastructure Investment for their attention to this difficult, but important task.

Our members are the frontline of fuel sales in our state. We will strongly oppose any sales tax imposed on fuel. It is confusing and unmanageable and exposes state to possible tax avoidance. An excise tax is flat, fair and non-confusing to fuel consumers.

Please be mindful that any tax increase that makes our stations along the borders of Texas, Arkansas and Mississippi uncompetitive will be strongly opposed as well.

Many of our members use service companies and common carries to haul products. These service companies charge a surcharge based on fuel cost.

Again, we appreciate your efforts and sacrifices on behalf of the people of Louisiana. We will be closely monitoring this issue for our members and our customers. We plan to communicate our concerns and issues with the Governor and the Legislature at the appropriate time.

Respectfully,

Frank Marcello  
2016 LOMCSA President

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