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TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 13, 2013

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

Lieutenant Governor Murray and I are pleased to file this capital authorization bill to implement *The Way Forward: A 21st Century Transportation Plan*.

In addition to responsibly paying for our daily operations, the 21st century plan calls for a significant infusion of capital investment funds. The bill I am filing today invests $13.7 billion over ten years to address a backlog of deferred maintenance and strategically improve our transportation system to reduce congestion on our roads, curb delays and minimize crowding on our trains and buses, and improve customer service. In addition, this bill continues funding our current investments identified in the statewide road and bridge program identified in the Fiscal Year 2013-2017 Capital Investment Plan. In total, the bill authorizes $19 billion of capital investment in our transportation system. Taken together, this legislation represents our commitment to a 21st century transportation system for the Commonwealth.

These investments will create jobs and economic development in every region of the Commonwealth. Over the next ten years, these funds will give our residents the transportation system they want, have asked for and deserve. The transportation investment bill, to be funded by both existing revenues and additional revenues through passage of tax reform, is a reflection of a choice. To support the transportation system our residents and economy need and deserve,

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we must finance it honestly and sustainably. This requires raising additional revenues to support additional, high-yield public investments in transportation as well as in education and innovation.

In the long run, these investments funded by the choices we make allow us to be responsible today and for the next generation.

Respectfully submitted,