

Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments
Joint MTC ABAG Legislation Committee

March 14, 2025

Agenda Item 2b

Assembly Bill 334 (Petri-Norris): Tolling Interoperability

Subject:

Facilitates national tolling interoperability by authorizing toll agencies to share only necessary information with out-of-state toll facility operators.

Background:

In 2012, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) was signed into law by President Obama. The surface transportation authorization bill included a provision requiring all toll agencies in the U.S. to be nationally interoperable. The goal was to provide all drivers the convenience of paying for any tolled facility in the U.S. while utilizing their home toll account. National interoperability has not been implemented in California because a statute that had the ostensible goal of allowing it was overly restrictive in terms of specifying which pieces of information toll agencies could share with out-of-state facilities. For instance, the law does not allow the name of the facility to be shared, nor the amount owed. As a result, California drivers who wish to use their FasTrak account to pay tolls in other states and be billed directly cannot do so and out-of-state residents who use California toll facilities cannot be billed directly but must instead await an invoice or toll violation notice.

For several years, efforts have been underway to enable all U.S. tolling agencies to be nationally interoperable. A National Interoperability Working Group has been established, and most tolling agencies across the U.S. are already interoperable. By enabling California toll agencies and customers to participate in national tolling interoperability, Assembly Bill (AB) 344 (Petri-Norris, 2025) will improve convenience and reduce administrative burden for drivers and toll agencies alike.

Bill Makes Technical Change Removing Barrier to Interoperability:

AB 334 makes a simple adjustment to current law to allow that toll agencies may provide only information regarding a vehicle's use of a toll facility that is "intended to implement interstate interoperability." Consistent with Item 6 in the state portion of our 2025 MTC/ABAG Joint Advocacy Program, staff recommends the Commission adopt a support position on AB 334.

Recommendation:

Support / Commission Approval

Known Positions:

Support

Transportation Corridors Agency (sponsor)

Opposition

None on file

Attachments:

- None


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