



# ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS *of* KENTUCKY

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April 2, 2014

Governor Steven L. Beshear  
State Capitol  
700 Capitol Avenue  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Gov. Beshear,

I am writing to ask you to sign HB 407, public private partnership (P3) legislation. This bill is the greatest single piece of legislation to support job creation passed by the General Assembly this year. This bill has the potential to create jobs in each of Kentucky's 120 counties while improving the infrastructure, transportation and community needs of every city and county. The state stands to be a big beneficiary of this legislation as well. I personally believe the Kentucky State Parks could be transformed into destinations once again, not only for our own citizens but for everyone in the United States.

Our organization greatly appreciated your administration's support of this bill and the concept. As you are aware, Transportation Secretary Mike Hancock took time from his busy schedule to join proponents at the witness table and speak in favor of HB 407 before the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee on March 6<sup>th</sup>. He also attended the Senate Transportation Committee on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

HB 407 was developed by a wide range of interests including contractors, unions, cities, counties, universities, architects, bankers, engineers and numerous business groups and associations. This bill, which creates a process for P3's to be implemented, is very open and transparent. No "back room deals" can take place with the signing of HB 407. Additionally, your own Finance and Administration Cabinet will have responsibility for implementing the accompanying regulations. This will enable your administration to further tailor the specifics of the process to accompany your strategic vision to increase the Commonwealth's economic competitiveness.

I recognize your displeasure that language permitting the express application of P3's on the Brent Spence Bridge was not included in the final bill. It was clearly communicated to coalition members that inclusion of authorizing provisions related to the project would have sealed the fate of the entire bill. What I would ask you to consider is the unlimited potential HB 407 possesses.

There are still Eastern Kentuckians without potable water, wastewater treatment facilities operating well above capacity, consent decrees those local governments must contend with and an unemployment rate that exceeds 7.5%. Kentucky's construction industry is still attempting to recover from the massive impact of the recession and currently stands 17.9% under employment levels of 2008. Signing HB 407 can positively impact each of the aforementioned social and economic issues.

Please Governor Beshear, sign HB 407 to put Kentuckians to work while our enabling communities grow and prosper.

Sincerely,

Richard O. Vincent  
Executive Vice President