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Representative Scott Wiggam
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street, 13th floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Honorable Representative Wiggam,

Plenary Group North America – a long term equity investor, developer and operator of public infrastructure facilities – is strongly supportive of the passage of House Bill 218, to authorize state agencies, state institutions of higher education, counties, townships, municipal corporations, school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and college-preparatory boarding schools to enter into public-private initiatives with private parties through a public-private agreement regarding public facilities.

These arrangements would allow responsible agencies under statutory authority to leverage private sector investment and utilize state monies which are directly related to a qualifying project that serves the public purpose. Alternative project delivery methods, another term for P3s, have been working to the benefit of taxpayers, delivering value for investments through long-term, life-cycle cost efficiencies in the operations and maintenance phases of state-owned infrastructure assets. In addition to accelerated delivery, when compared to the traditional design, bid, build procurement method, the assets delivered under these alternative project delivery methods such as P3s create sustainable, permanent jobs and support regional economic expansion and job growth. It is critical to note that direct, indirect and induced jobs associated with infrastructure improvements and development are local; contributing to regional vitality, leveraging locally accessible professionals, engineers, contractors, trades and suppliers. AIAI strongly supports passage of HB218 and looks forward to working with you on this important legislation as the process moves forward.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions at 813-387-3877 or sia.kusha@plenarygroup.com.

Respectfully,

Sia Kusha, PE, FACEC
Group Head Project Development & Partnering
Plenary Group