



March 23, 2021

The Honorable Reggie Stolfus
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Representative Stolfus,

The Association for the Improvement of American Infrastructure (AIAI) is strongly supportive of the passage of House Bill 91, 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 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.

AIAI posits that properly structured public-private partnerships (P3s) provide definitive value to taxpayers through a pay-for-performance model. We acknowledge that P3s are not the appropriate solution for every project, but when approached with an outcome driven methodology, and key criteria in place, the positive impact to the communities they serve is tremendous. Having this procurement option available to government agencies across Ohio as they deliver upon critical infrastructure needs encourages innovation and furthermore enables the leveraging of funding to do more while ensuring the long-term life cycle benefits that P3s encompass.

P3s have been working for decades to the benefit of taxpayers, delivering value for investments through long-term, life-cycle cost efficiencies in the operations and maintenance phases of publicly-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, which contributes to regional vitality and leverages locally accessible professionals, engineers, contractors, trades and suppliers.

On behalf of my members, I thank you for the opportunity to provide our support for this all-important bill and look forward to the process moving forward. Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions at 516-277-2950 or lbuglione@aiai-infra.org.

Respectfully,

Lisa Buglione
Executive Director, AIAI – the Association
for the Improvement of American Infrastructure