



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Andy Beshear  
GOVERNOR



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**VETO MESSAGE FROM THE**  
**GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY**  
**REGARDING HOUSE BILL 475 OF THE**  
**2021 REGULAR SESSION**

*I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:*

House Bill 475 of the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

*I am vetoing House Bill 475 because it intentionally weakens worker health and safety protections for Kentucky workers. Kentucky's Occupational Safety and Health Program has a long, proud history. It became the first approved state plan program in 1973, and as a state plan program Kentucky OSH has the flexibility to target its regulations to specific, dangerous conditions faced by Kentucky workers.*

*I am further vetoing House Bill 475 because it creates the perverse situation where some Kentucky OSH regulations will need to become more stringent. As a state plan program, Kentucky OSH can currently promulgate some regulations less stringent than federal regulations, so long as the overall program remains as effective as the federal program. House Bill 475 will require Kentucky OSH to revise any regulations currently less stringent than the federal regulations to be more stringent in order to maintain its status as a state plan program.*

This the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2021.

Andy Beshear  
Governor