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House Clerk's Office

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY REGARDING HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 69 OF THE 2023 REGULAR SESSION

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

House Joint Resolution 69 of the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

I am vetoing House Joint Resolution 69 because it attempts to take the authority of the Governor as required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to designate the lead state agency for the State Indoor Radon Grant, and give it to the Kentucky General Assembly. No state legislative action can change the requirements set by a federal agency to be the recipient of a federal grant. The newly created Kentucky Board of Radon Safety was not effective until July 14, 2022 and needed to organize and establish staffing to carry out its duties. By that time the Kentucky Department of Public Health had already submitted the federal grant application and met all of the necessary requirements for the next federal grant award. Five months ago, my office communicated with the Chair of the new board that we were open to the new board being Kentucky's lead state agency, but in the short-run chose to retain the Department of Public Health as the certified lead state agency to avoid further delays in productively using the grant funds in this fiscal year. My office requested that the board submit a plan of action to create the administrative capacity necessary to administer the federal grant program. Rather than submit that plan, which my office has not received, or communicate any further with my office, the board sought House Joint Resolution 69.

For these reasons, I am vetoing House Joint Resolution 69.

This, the 24 day of March, 2023.

Andy Beshea

Governor

