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House Clerk's MF

Andy Beshear GOVERNOR

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## VETO MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY REGARDING HOUSE BILL 546 OF THE 2025 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 parts:

Page 5, line 27, in its entirety.

Page 6, lines 1 through 14, in their entirety.

Page 6, line 27, after "Project", delete the rest of the line.

Page 7, lines 1 through 5, in their entirety.

Page 7, line 12, after "Project", delete the rest of the line.

Page 7, lines 13 through 15, in their entirety.

Page 7, line 16, delete "project[and the completion of the Mountain Parkway Widening Project]".

House Bill 546 requires the I-69 Ohio River Crossing project to be partly funded by tolls on Kentuckians. In 2019 then-Governor Matt Bevin supported tolls for the Brent Spence Bridge connecting Covington with Cincinnati, which I opposed. Voters in northern Kentucky soundly rejected tolls in the election that year. The Brent Spence Bridge project has no tolls and neither should the I-69 Ohio River Crossing. This bill and the tolls it seeks to impose will slow down progress on this critical project for Kentucky.

This, the  $\frac{25}{\text{day}}$  of March 2025.

Andy Beshear

Governor

