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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill

Referred to Committee: Senate 4

Authors: Jack Federico, Chris Kemper, Owen Freeman, Jack Culbertson	Action on the Bill	
School: St. Xavier HS	House	Senate

____ □ Passed □ □ Passed □ □ Defeated □ □ Defeated

City: Louisville

 An act to Privatize Infrastructure in the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: The roads, highways and bridges in the state of Kentucky are in desperate need of repair. The typical solution to this would be to increase funds by increasing the state income tax. Given that such has been done almost every year for the past twenty years, this bill offers a different solution. The purpose of this legislation is to redirect ownership and maintenance of state infrastructure to private companies. Rather than the government using tax money to build roads and bridges, private companies would provide the service instead. This would improve quality, lower cost and make building roads and bridges more peaceful.

Section 2: Government controlling infrastructure means that in order for new roads to be laid down, land must be taken, or annexed from the pre-existing owners. This bill would have companies peacefully purchase land from citizens before building roads.

Section 3: Government paying for infrastructure means that it must tax the citizens of Kentucky in order to pay for them. This is seen by some as unfair, since everyone pays the same percentage in taxes yet not everyone uses the roads equally. For instance, a mother who works out of her home should not pay the same amount for road maintenance as a delivery company that uses infrastructure constantly. Under this bill, every person or company would pay their share according to their usage since payment for infrastructure would be direct like any other service provided by private companies.

Section 4: Both State and County governments of Kentucky will auction off roads based off of private appraisals. Private companies would control their own traffic laws, so in order to make smooth the transition, companies will be required to maintain already-existing traffic laws for the first five years after implementation of this bill. Private companies will also be responsible for policing their own roads.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2017.