

March 8, 2021

Dear Governor Beshear,

The House and Senate have overwhelmingly passed House Bill 7, a policy to ensure Kentuckians struggling with substance use disorder are supported in their communities.

Our groups write to emphasize the importance of this legislation becoming law to assist Kentucky's cities and counties in their efforts to focus community resources on local substance use prevention, treatment and recovery.

House Bill 7 recognizes the importance of local leadership in this fight by bringing together leaders from business, recovery, education, local government, health care and other sectors that will determine appropriate and meaningful "Recovery Ready" standards for the Commonwealth's communities. The legislation focuses on the critical needs of an individual having a job, housing, transportation, and access to other resources important to staying in recovery.

Kentucky is currently losing the battle against substance use disorder as overdose deaths are up over 20 percent and substance use is tearing Kentucky families apart and costing the state in many ways. This policy will help heal our communities and provide support for those who need it most.

We thank you for your consideration and ask you swiftly sign House Bill 7 into law.

Sincerely,

Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
Kentucky School Boards Association
Kentucky Association of Counties
Kentucky League of Cities
Operation Unite
Volunteers of America
Addiction Recovery Care

