Kentucky Chamber
Uniting Business. Advancing Kentucky.

Ashli Watts
President & CEO

November 9, 2026

Subject: Pass BAAJA Now: Affordability Cannot Wait

Dear Members of Kentucky's Congressional Delegation,

On Tuesday, the people of Kentucky spoke, and their message was unmistakable: the cost of living is far too high. They feel it at the checkout line, at the gas pump, and each month when the power bill arrives. They are asking their leaders, plainly and rightly, for relief.

The Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA) answers that call. Few things touch American lives as completely as energy—from the meal on the kitchen table to the car that takes us to work each morning. Today, the simple act of building a power line or an energy project can be stalled for years in a maze of red tape, and it is ordinary families who pay the price. BAAJA clears that path. It lets America build again, easing the strain on household budgets and opening the door to good-paying jobs. It is, quite simply, the most consequential affordability legislation of the decade.

For the businesses of Kentucky, the stakes could not be higher. Our members, from family-owned shops on Main Street to the manufacturers and builders that anchor our communities, make decisions every day about where to invest, whom to hire, and whether to expand. Those decisions depend on energy that is reliable and affordable, and on knowing that a project begun today will not be trapped in paperwork for a decade. When permitting drags on, plans are shelved, jobs go unfilled, and opportunity moves elsewhere. BAAJA gives employers the certainty they need to invest here at home and grow alongside the communities they serve.

This bill is the product of more than a year of good-faith work by Republicans and Democrats alike, an achievement all too rare in Washington today. Opportunities like this one are fleeting. Should this moment pass, it may be years before another arrives. The time to act is now.

On behalf of the Kentucky business community and the employers we represent, we respectfully urge you to pass BAAJA this year. The people you serve are counting on you.

Sincerely,

Ashli Watts

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