

TO: The Honorable Members of the PA House Transportation Committee

FROM: Allie Kutz, Manager, Government Affairs

DATE: July 8, 2025

RE: **PA Chamber memo: Support H.B. 1608 – Build Design Best Value Procurement**

I write today on behalf of the PA Chamber to urge lawmakers to please support House Bill 1608, which is scheduled for consideration in committee today.

This legislation would modernize Pennsylvania's procurement code by allowing PennDOT and the Turnpike Commission to use Design Build Best Value (DBBV) as an alternative procurement process for infrastructure design and construction. DBBV may be used when a construction project would benefit from this procurement method because of factors such as project complexity, potential for innovation, project risks, or estimated project cost. Public notice for request for proposals is required and the allowance of DBBV will expire in eight years unless renewed by the General Assembly.

The "design-build" project delivery method is already authorized in most states and has been successfully utilized by private industry and federal agencies for decades. Unlike the traditional "design-bid-build" approach, design-build enables one entity to handle both the design and construction aspects of a project, improving collaboration, reducing delays, and minimizing cost overruns. The result is streamlined execution, reduced litigation risk, and more efficient use of public dollars.

HB 1608 will help state agencies and institutions better meet their construction needs while delivering value to taxpayers, particularly for large, complex infrastructure projects. The PA Chamber supports modernizing procurement practices especially when enhanced flexibility can foster a more competitive and efficient marketplace that rewards quality and value while strengthen Pennsylvania's competitive edge in infrastructure development.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our views on this important matter. For any questions or further discussion, please contact Allie Kutz, Manager of Government Affairs, at akutz@pachamber.org or 717-439-4829.

[Click here](#) to check the PA Chamber Legislative Scorecard.
