



NEWS

**From the Office of
Representative Charlie Denison**

135th District

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Representative Charlie Denison's House Bill 359 Receives Governor Jay Nixon's Signature *Important Transportation Reform Bill Immediately Becomes Law*

Jefferson City- On Tuesday, Governor Jay Nixon signed into law House Bill 359, sponsored by State Representative Charlie Denison (R-Springfield). The bill, which gives legislative approval to the design-build project delivery method, received broad bipartisan support in the both the House of Representatives and the Senate and will become law immediately due to the emergency clause within the bill.

"Allowing the highway commission more design-build contracts will improve our government's efficiency and effectiveness," Governor Nixon said in a release after signing the legislation. "By combining these steps, we save time and money, and we will be able to improve Missouri's highways more quickly."

Under the new law, the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission will now be able to enter into design-build contracts on up to two percent of their annual projects. Design-build is a process of awarding contracts for all aspects of a project instead of multiple bids for separate phases of a project. This delivery method has proven to drastically reduce the cost and completion time for the three projects it has been used on: the Safe and Sound Bridge Project, the I-64 Project and the Paseo Bridge Project. Each has been completed under budget and ahead of schedule, or is currently on pace to do so.

"This session I was dedicated to promoting job growth in Missouri," Denison stated shortly after Governor Nixon's bill signing. "House Bill 359 is an important tool in not only

improving the process in which our highway projects are completed but also allowing Missouri to complete more of these much needed projects and put Missourians back to work.”

“Governor Nixon and the Missouri legislature have given us an important tool to tackle vital transportation projects that will create jobs and save lives,” Missouri Department of Transportation Director Pete Rahn said. “The design-build construction method allows us to use innovative solutions to deliver large-scale highway and bridge improvements quickly and cost-effectively.”

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