

# Legislative Report

February 16, 2026  
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## Bill Information

### **HB35** SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY *(BANTA, KIM)*

AN ACT relating to scholarship eligibility for proprietary schools.

Amend KRS 164.786 to include a proprietary school in the definition of "participating institution" for the purpose of the Dual Credit Scholarship Program; amend KRS 164.787 to include a proprietary school in the definition of "eligible institution" for the purpose of the Work Ready Kentucky Scholarship Program.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/13/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education (H)

1/7/2026 - Introduced

[HB35 Bill Page](#) 

### **HB42** INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS *(LEHMAN, MATTHEW)*

AN ACT relating to intercollegiate athletics in the Commonwealth.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 164 to declare findings; set mandated annual varsity athletic game requirements for the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University, and Western Kentucky University in various sports; ensure existing contracts of public postsecondary institutions are not violated.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/14/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)

1/7/2026 - Introduced

[HB42 Bill Page](#) 

### **HB66** PUBLIC AGENCIES *(HODGSON, JOHN)*

AN ACT relating to public agencies.

Amend KRS 12.070 to permit a board, commission, or similar administrative body to conduct video teleconference meetings to allow public participation; allow members of a board, commission, or similar administrative body to attend meetings virtually unless a decision implements, interprets, or prescribes law or policy, affects private rights or procedures available to the public, or administers or awards funds; prohibit members who participate virtually from receiving reimbursement for travel expenses; amend KRS 61.826 to prohibit a member of a public agency that attends a meeting through video teleconference from receiving reimbursement of travel expenses; amend KRS 164.004 to conform. HCS(1) Delete original provisions; create new section of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 to require

the public agencies to publish information relating to board or commission members' name, term, and official method of contact; amend KRS 61.826 to allow video teleconference meetings to conduct routine public business; specify conditions and restrictions; require a quorum of members to convene for in-person meeting, and other members to participate virtually through video teleconference when the public agency conducts business that establishes or modifies laws, regulations, taxes, taking action on a nonroutine expenditure, or a grant or award greater than \$100,000; exempt in-person requirements during a declared state of emergency; require a public agency to develop policies and procedures governing attendance and participation policies for video teleconference meetings. HFA(1) Retain original provisions; require in-person meeting on final actions establishing or modifying taxes, laws or regulations; permit public agencies to develop policies and procedures on video teleconference meetings.

#### RECENT STATUS

2/12/2026 - received in Senate

2/11/2026 - (H) THIRD READING, passed 95-0 with Committee Substitute (1), Floor Amendment (1) and Committee Amendment (1-title)

2/11/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day; w/ HCS 1, HCA 1t, and HFA 1

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### HB90 EDUCATIONAL LOBBYING (GROSSL, VANESSA)

AN ACT relating to educational lobbying.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 160 to define "lobbying" and "public school or school district"; prohibit a public school or school district from expending any moneys to compensate an external individual or entity to lobby; permit employees of public schools or school districts to engage in lobbying services; permit schools to compensate external individuals or entities to represent their interest before the executive or legislative branch of the federal government; create a new section of KRS Chapter 164 to prohibit a public postsecondary education institution from expending moneys to compensate an external individual or entity to engage in lobbying services; permit employees of public postsecondary education institutions to engage in lobbying services; permit public postsecondary education institutions to compensate external individuals or entities to represent their interest before the executive or legislative branch of the federal government.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/14/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education (H)

1/7/2026 - Introduced

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### HB94 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION (GROSSL, VANESSA)

AN ACT relating to postsecondary education.

Amend KRS 164.2951 to require the Council on Postsecondary Education to develop, implement, and maintain statewide transfer pathways available between the public postsecondary education institutions in selected baccalaureate programs; require the council to publish on its website a list of the available transfer pathways; require participating postsecondary education institutions to accept transfer credit, earned or accepted at the prior institution within pathways as general education or program-specific general education credit before applying credit as elective; require the council to provide written notification to public postsecondary education institutions and coordinate credit transfer discussions upon receiving notification of an institution seeking to make changes to curricula impacting lower-division courses.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/20/2026 - House Postsecondary Education (H), (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

1/14/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)  
1/7/2026 - Introduced

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## HB96 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION WORKING GROUP *(TIPTON, JAMES)*

AN ACT relating to the postsecondary education working group and declaring an emergency.  
Amend KRS 164.092 to change the membership of the postsecondary education working group of the Council on Postsecondary Education; require the working group to convene on a calendar year basis rather than a fiscal year basis; EMERGENCY.

### RECENT STATUS

1/23/2026 - received in Senate  
1/22/2026 - (H) THIRD READING, passed 79-16  
1/22/2026 - (H) PLACED IN THE ORDERS OF THE DAY

[HB96 Bill Page](#) →

## HB130 SCHOLARSHIPS *(AULL, CHAD)*

AN ACT relating to scholarships.  
Amend KRS 164.7879 to require the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority to annually adjust the Kentucky education excellence scholarship (KEES) based on the Consumer Price Index; permit the authority to annually adjust KEES supplemental awards based on the Consumer Price Index; require that KEES award adjustments be paid at the most recent calculation for the academic term in which a student utilizes their award; prohibit decrease in KEES awards; amend various statutes to conform.

### RECENT STATUS

1/14/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)  
1/7/2026 - Introduced

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## HB213 REEMPLOYMENT OF RETIRED POLICE OFFICERS *(CALLAWAY, EMILY)*

AN ACT relating to reemployment of retired police officers.  
Amend KRS 70.292, 70.293, and 95.022, regarding city and county programs to reemploy retired police officers without incurring employer retirement contributions, to reduce the required service of the officer or sheriff before retirement from 20 years to 15 years and to allow retired officers to take health insurance coverage through the employing city or county; amend KRS 61.702 and 78.5536 to conform.

### RECENT STATUS

2/13/2026 - Statutory Public Pension Oversight Board, (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)  
1/30/2026 - (H) SECOND READING, to Rules

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## HB240 EDUCATION RESIDENCY *(GORDON, DEANNA)*

AN ACT relating to residency as defined by the Council on Postsecondary Education.

Amend KRS 164.020 to require the Council on Postsecondary Education to consider individuals born in Kentucky as Kentucky residents when determining residency for tuition and admission purposes in the state postsecondary education system; provide that the Act may be cited as the Welcome Back to My Old Kentucky Home Initiative.

### RECENT STATUS

1/15/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)

1/8/2026 - Introduced

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## HB253 READING INSTRUCTION *(TIPTON, JAMES)*

AN ACT relating to reading and language arts instruction.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 158 to define terms; require the Kentucky Department of Education to establish an approved list of reading curriculum and interventions that do not use a three-cueing system; prohibit school districts from using any curriculum or program that employs a three-cueing system; prohibit the use of a three-cueing system in teacher professional development; require the Educational Professional Standards Board to promulgate administrative regulations establishing curriculum for each approved educator preparation program; amend KRS 158.307 to require rather than allow local boards of education to develop a policy on dyslexia; require rather than allow the policy to include listed items; amend KRS 164.304 to require postsecondary institutions offering teacher preparation programs to include instruction on dyslexia by the 2027-2028 school year, rather than the instruction being contingent on funding availability; amend KRS 164.306 to specify that educator preparation programs shall use evidence-based reading instruction and intervention programs and shall not provide instruction on a three-cueing system; amend KRS 161.028 to require the board to include in the standards set for teacher preparation programs that the programs shall use evidence-based reading instruction and intervention programs and shall not provide instruction on a three-cueing system. HCS (1) Retain original provisions; specify dates by which three-cueing shall no longer be used in public school districts; specify dates by which interdisciplinary early childhood through fifth grade teachers are required to complete a science of reading professional learning program; require all interdisciplinary early childhood through grade 5 educators who received certification through Options 1 to 5 and 8 to complete a science of reading professional learning program within 2 years of initial employment.

### RECENT STATUS

2/13/2026 - received in Senate

2/12/2026 - (H) THIRD READING, passed 94-1 with Committee Substitute (1)

2/12/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day; w/ HCS1

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## HB275 KEES SCHOLARSHIPS *(RABOURN, FELICIA)*

AN ACT relating to KEES scholarships for students attending noncertified schools.

Amend KRS 164.7874 to define "eligible noncertified school graduate"; amend definitions of "KEES award," "KEES award maximum," and "KEES base amount" for an eligible noncertified school graduate; amend KRS 164.7879 to establish an equivalent grade point average for eligible noncertified school graduates based on the graduate's ACT score; amend KRS 164.7881 and 164.7884 to conform.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/15/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)

1/8/2026 - Introduced

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### HB298 KEES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS OF NON-CERTIFIED SCHOOLS *(BAKER, SHANE)*

AN ACT relating to KEES scholarships for students attending noncertified schools.

Amend KRS 164.7874, relating to KEES awards, to define terms; amend KRS 164.7879 to establish the use of a specified equivalent grade point average for eligible graduates of certain private, parochial, or church schools based on the Advanced Placement exam score, dual credit courses grade point average, or a combination of both; amend KRS 164.7881 and 164.7884 to conform.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/16/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)

1/9/2026 - Introduced

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### HB307 POSTSECONDARY ADMISSION *(TIPTON, JAMES)*

AN ACT relating to proactive postsecondary admission.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 164 to define terms; establish a proactive postsecondary admissions program to be managed by the Council on Postsecondary Education; require each public postsecondary education institution in Kentucky to establish the minimum academic qualification for prospective admission to the institution and implement the common online application approved by the council by July 1, 2027; require the Kentucky Department of Education and each certified nonpublic school to submit a compiled list with designated information of all high school students who most recently completed their junior year to the council and the Kentucky Center for Statistics on or before September 1 of each year; require the KHEAA to submit the KEES award amounts of public and certified nonpublic high school students to the council on or before September 1 of each year; direct the council to send a personalized prospective admissions letter notifying each eligible high school student of each public postsecondary education institution in Kentucky where the recipient qualifies for prospective admissions, provides instructions for the recipient to apply for full admission, and of the student's KEES scholarship amount; provide that the personalized letter shall not constitute a guarantee of admission; retain the right for public postsecondary education institutions to perform a comprehensive reviews of all admissions applications internally; create a new section of KRS Chapter 151 to direct the Kentucky Center for Statistics to collaborate with the Kentucky Department of Education and the Council on Postsecondary Education to publish annual data on academic and workforce outcomes; amend KRS 164.020 to direct the Council on Postsecondary Education to establish a common online application and maintain a website for students to apply to Kentucky public postsecondary institutions through the common online application.

#### RECENT STATUS

2/11/2026 - (H) SECOND READING, to Rules

2/10/2026 - (H) FIRST READING

2/10/2026 - (H) Reported Favorably w/ HCS 1

HB307 Bill Page →

## HB310 POSTSECONDARY FUNDING *(WHITE, RICHARD)*

AN ACT relating to postsecondary funding.

Amend KRS 164.092 to remove the definition of "equilibrium" and all references to equilibrium; require that university resources shall be allocated without weighting; require the postsecondary working group to meet every odd year; make technical amendments.

### RECENT STATUS

1/20/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)

1/12/2026 - Introduced

HB310 Bill Page →

## HB312 CONCEALED FIREARMS AND DEADLY WEAPONS *(MADDOX, SAVANNAH)*

AN ACT relating to concealed firearms and deadly weapons.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 237 to define "provisional license" and "standard license"; authorize the Department of Kentucky State Police (KSP) to issue provisional licenses to carry concealed firearms and other deadly weapons to persons who are 18 to 20 years of age; require KSP to provide notice of expiration of provisional licenses and an application to switch from a provisional license to a standard license; allow the provisional license holder to apply by paper to his or her sheriff or online to KSP for a standard license; allow KSP to promulgate administrative regulations to administer provisional and standard license issuance.

### RECENT STATUS

1/27/2026 - received in Senate

1/23/2026 - (H) THIRD READING, passed 73-17

1/23/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day; w/ HFA 1

HB312 Bill Page →

## HB318 PROPERTY RIGHTS IN NAME, VOICE, AND LIKENESS *(GROSSBERG, DANIEL)*

AN ACT relating to property rights in name, voice, and likeness.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 365 to define terms; establish property rights in every individual's name, voice, and likeness; establish how the property rights may be transferred or terminated; establish a civil cause of action and damages for unauthorized use of an individual's name, voice, or likeness; provide exceptions; require that an action commence within 4 years of discovery of the violation.

### RECENT STATUS

1/20/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Judiciary (H)

1/12/2026 - Introduced



## HB376 PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS *(BANTA, KIM)*

AN ACT relating to public postsecondary education institutions.

Amend KRS 164.020 to prohibit the Council on Postsecondary Education from raising tuition for a postsecondary education institution more than 5% a year for Kentucky resident students and 7% a year for non-Kentucky resident students; provide a 4-year tuition freeze for an enrolled Kentucky resident student; require an institution to notify a student before expiration of a tuition freeze; require any increase in tuition or fees to be approved before March 1; provide that the Act may be cited as the Kentucky Student Tuition Protection and Accountability Act; EFFECTIVE July 1, 2029.

### RECENT STATUS

1/22/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Appropriations & Revenue (H)

1/14/2026 - Introduced



## HB379 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION *(BAKER, SHANE)*

AN ACT relating to postsecondary education.

Amend KRS 164.001 to remove the definition of "committee," "P-16 council," and "remedial education" amend KRS 164.013 to conform; amend KRS 164.0211 to attach the Board of Student Body Presidents to the Council on Postsecondary Education for administration and organization purposes; create a new section of KRS 164 to codify the existing Commonwealth Education Continuum, establish governance and membership of the continuum; establish the duties of the continuum; provide that the administrative and support staff of the continuum shall be provided by the council; direct the continuum to submit an annual report and establish the contents of the report; amend KRS 164.330 to remove requirement for board of regents meetings to be held within 30 days of an appointment; amend various KRS sections to conform; repeal KRS 164.003, 164.004, 164.0285, 164.0286, 164.0287, 164.0268, 164.033. HCS(1) Retain provisions, except remove KRS 164.0211 and changes to the Board of Student Body Presidents; remove the creation of the Commonwealth Education Continuum; amend KRS 164.321 to provide that governing board members' attendance at mandatory orientation or training does not constitute a meeting under the Open Meetings Act; amend KRS 164.7919 to provide that the Department of Revenue shall not return enrollment-related debt or liquidated debt to a public postsecondary education institution unless certain requirements are met; provide that the Department of Revenue shall retain statutory collection fees but the remainder shall go to the institution; amend KRS 45.241 to define "enrollment-related debt"; authorize the Department of Revenue to collect enrollment-related debts and liquidated debts pursuant to a memorandum of agreement with a public postsecondary education institution; limit the authority of the Department of Revenue to refuse to collect enrollment-related debts and liquidated debts referred by a public postsecondary education institution; amend KRS 131.130 to require the Department of Revenue and each public postsecondary education institutions to enter into an annual memorandum of agreement for the collection of enrollment-related debts and liquidated debts and allow a contract for collection of unliquidated debts; amend KRS 164.525 to require that the Center for Mathematics be administered by Northern Kentucky University and require an annual report to designated entities; amend KRS 164.230, 164.360, and 164.830 to provide that preliminary discussions by a postsecondary governing board relating to productivity and performance evaluations of presidents may occur in closed session and that the summative evaluation report shall be presented in an open meeting; amend KRS 164.131 to provide that University of Kentucky Board of Trustees' attendance at an orientation and education program is not a meeting under the Open Meetings Act.

### RECENT STATUS

2/13/2026 - (H) THIRD READING, passed 92-0 with Committee Substitute (1)

2/13/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day; w/ HCS1

2/12/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day for Friday, February 13 2026

## HB389 READING AND WRITING IN SCHOOLS *(HEAVRIN, SAMARA)*

AN ACT relating to reading and writing in schools.

Amend KRS 158.307 to define "dysgraphia"; require the department to annually update the dyslexia toolkit; require the toolkit to include guidance on dysgraphia and strategies and other resources to be used for students displaying dyslexia and dysgraphia; require universal screeners and diagnostic tools be approved by the department; require each district to use evidence-based instructional strategies to provide intervention services; require school districts to report data to the department; amend KRS 164.304 to require postsecondary institutions offering teacher preparation programs include instruction on the application and implementation of a multitiered system of supports by the 2027-2028 school year. HCS (1) Retain original provisions; provide that evidence-based strategies that have been proven effective by the department shall be used in intervention services; make technical changes.

### RECENT STATUS

1/29/2026 - received in Senate

1/28/2026 - (H) THIRD READING, passed 95-0 with Committee Substitute (1)

1/28/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day; w/ HCS 1

## HB391 ELEMENTARY LITERACY *(STEVENSON, PAMELA)*

AN ACT relating to elementary literacy and making an appropriation therefor.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 171 to establish the Kids Love to Read Program; specify the program is for children in kindergarten through grade five; require books to be sent to children's homes; require the Department for Libraries and Archives to promulgate administrative regulations necessary to administer the program; appropriate \$500,000 in fiscal year 2027-2028 to support the program; APPROPRIATION.

### RECENT STATUS

1/23/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education (H)

1/15/2026 - Introduced

## HB394 PROHIBITED USES OF TAX DOLLARS *(RABOURN, FELICIA)*

AN ACT relating to prohibited uses of tax dollars.

Amend KRS 65.013 to create a cause of action for violations of the use of tax dollars to advocate for or against public questions on the ballot or to lobby or participate in executive agency lobbying; establish time limitation to commence suit and appropriate venue; provide damages recoverable per violation; allow for a class action; prohibit persons held civilly liable from holding a position of public trust or profit for 10 years; create a new section of KRS Chapter 65 to establish a criminal penalty and a prohibition against holding a position of public trust or profit for 10 years for individuals found guilty of a violation.

## RECENT STATUS

1/23/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Elections, Const. Amendments & Intergovernmental Affairs (H)

1/15/2026 - Introduced

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## HB424 SOCIAL WORK *(HEAVRIN, SAMARA)*

AN ACT relating to social work.

Amend KRS 335.010 to exempt student interns or trainees from social work licensure requirements; direct the Kentucky Board of Social Work to promulgate administrative regulations to define standards for student involvement in clinical social work; amend KRS 335.020 to define terms; amend KRS 335.030, 335.070, 335.080, 335.090, 335.100, 335.150, and 335.158 to establish licensure standards, including use of a multistate license, criminal background checks, and telehealth; amend KRS 335.050 to require that at least 1 licensee member of the board is a teacher actively engaged in social work education; amend KRS 387.610 and 457.090 to conform.

## RECENT STATUS

2/12/2026 - (H) SECOND READING, to Rules

2/11/2026 - (H) FIRST READING

2/11/2026 - (H) Reported Favorably w/ HCS 1

[HB424 Bill Page](#) →

## HB453 PRESCRIPTION DRUGS *(FLANNERY, PATRICK)*

AN ACT relating to prescription drugs.

Amend KRS 304.17A-164 to define terms; prohibit insurers and administrators from requiring insureds to pay cost sharing for a prescription drug that is greater than the cash price; require insurers and administrators to count the amount paid for a covered prescription drug towards the insured's cost-sharing if certain requirements are met; establish requirements for insurers, administrators, and pharmacies for submission of cash price paid by an insured; exempt a state employee health plan from counting certain third-party payments towards the insured's cost-sharing; provide for construction of cost-sharing requirements; amend KRS 304.17C-125, 304.38A-115, 164.2871, and 18A.225 to apply cost-sharing requirements to limited health plans, self-insured state postsecondary education institution employer group health plans, and the state employee health plan; create a new section of KRS Chapter 315 to require pharmacies to comply with cost-sharing requirements; provide that cost-sharing requirements apply to health plans issued or renewed on or after effective date; EFFECTIVE, January 1, 2027.

## RECENT STATUS

1/29/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Banking & Insurance (H)

1/21/2026 - Introduced

[HB453 Bill Page](#) →

## HB457 COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OVERSIGHT *(TIPTON, JAMES)*

AN ACT relating to the Council on Postsecondary Education's oversight of public postsecondary education institutions. Amend KRS 164.096 to require each public postsecondary education institution to provide the Council on Postsecondary Education its annual operating budget by August 1 of each fiscal year; require each institution to provide the council a quarterly budget-to-actual report within thirty (30) days following the end of each fiscal quarter; require each institution to provide financial information relevant to the Council's review of the institution's annual operating budget or quarterly budget-to-actual report upon the request of the council; amend KRS 164.013 to require the council's president to consult with the boards of regents and boards of trustees in their respective presidential selection and evaluation processes.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/29/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Postsecondary Education (H)  
1/21/2026 - Introduced

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### HB472 PUBLIC CONTRACTS *(FLANNERY, PATRICK)*

AN ACT relating to public contracts. Create new sections of KRS Chapters 45A, 56, and 65 to require that state and local contracts contain a provision that any iron, steel, or aluminum used in all state and local projects be manufactured in the United States unless a waiver is granted; amend KRS 45A.343, 45A.352, 65.027, 162.070, 164A.575, 176.070, 176.080, and 424.260 to conform; provide that Section 1 to 3 of the Act may be cited as the Kentucky Buy American Act.

#### RECENT STATUS

1/30/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Economic Development & Workforce Investment (H)  
1/22/2026 - Introduced

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### HB490 EMPLOYMENT AT POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS *(THOMPSON, AARON)*

AN ACT relating to employment at public postsecondary education institutions and declaring an emergency. Amend KRS 164.360, 164.230, and 164.830 to allow for the removal of faculty members at public postsecondary education institutions for bona fide financial reasons; require the boards of regents and trustees of the institutions to establish the process for removal based on financial reasons with specified parameters; EMERGENCY.

#### RECENT STATUS

2/17/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day; w/ HFA1  
2/13/2026 - (H) Posted for Passage in Regular Orders of the Day for Tuesday, February 17 2026  
2/12/2026 - floor amendment (1) filed

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### HB495 LOCAL OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE FEES *(DIETZ, STEPHANIE)*

AN ACT relating to local occupational license fees.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 91A to define terms; require 100% of the wages of an employee associated with the corporate office to be apportioned to the local government where the corporate office is located; exclude wages for work performed at a satellite office; require 100% of the wages of an employee assigned to a state government office to be apportioned to the local government where the state government office is located; allow a refund claim for occupational license fees paid for work physically performed outside of the local government's jurisdiction; establish requirements for refunds; amend KRS 67.780 to conform; apply the apportionment and refund requirements to incentive agreements entered into or amended on or after the effective date of the Act.

### RECENT STATUS

2/10/2026 - House Local Government (H), (Bill Scheduled for Hearing)

2/4/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Local Government (H)

1/28/2026 - Introduced

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## HB497 POSTSECONDARY TUITION WAIVERS *(TIPTON, JAMES)*

AN ACT relating to postsecondary tuition waivers.

Amend KRS 164.515 to make the amount of tuition waived for the spouse or child of designated permanently disabled veterans a last-dollar scholarship that shall not exceed the cost of tuition and mandatory fees less any state or federal grants; amend KRS 164.2841 to make the amount tuition waived for the survivor of police officer, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter killed in line of duty last-dollar scholarship that shall not exceed the cost of tuition and mandatory fees less any state or federal grants; amend KRS 164.2842 to make the amount of tuition waived for the survivor of police officer, firefighter, or volunteer firefighter permanently and totally disabled in line of duty a last-dollar scholarship that shall not exceed the cost of tuition and mandatory fees less any state or federal grants; amend KRS 164.507 to make the amount of tuition waived for the non-married spouse or child of a deceased veteran a last-dollar scholarship that shall not exceed the cost of tuition and mandatory fees less any state or federal grants; amend KRS 164.020 to delete the tuition waiver for employees and faculty of state and locally operated secondary area technology center staff.

### RECENT STATUS

2/11/2026 - floor amendment (2) filed to Committee Substitute

2/11/2026 - (H) SECOND READING, to Rules

2/10/2026 - floor amendment (1) filed to Committee Substitute

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## HB500 EXECUTIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS *(PETRIE, JASON)*

AN ACT relating to appropriations measures providing funding and establishing conditions for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and its various officers, cabinets, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, subdivisions, agencies, and other state-supported activities.

The State/Executive Branch Budget: Details Part I, Operating Budget; details Part II, Capital Projects Budget; details Part III, General Provisions; details Part IV, State Salary/Compensation, Benefit, and Employment Policy; details Part V, Funds Transfer; details Part VI, General Fund Budget Reduction Plan; details Part VII, General Fund Surplus Expenditure Plan; details Part VIII, Road Fund Budget Reduction Plan; details Part IX, Road Fund Surplus Expenditure Plan; details Part X, Phase I Tobacco Settlement; and details Part XI, Executive Branch Budget Summary; APPROPRIATION.

### RECENT STATUS

2/3/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Appropriations & Revenue (H)

1/27/2026 - Introduced

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## **HB515** REVENUE *(PETRIE, JASON)*

AN ACT relating to revenue.  
Amend KRS 141.068 to make a technical correction.

### **RECENT STATUS**

2/5/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Appropriations & Revenue (H)  
1/29/2026 - Introduced

[HB515 Bill Page](#) →

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## **HB517** CONCEALED DEADLY WEAPONS *(RABOURN, FELICIA)*

AN ACT relating to concealed deadly weapons.  
Repeal KRS 237.115, which interprets the application of the license to carry concealed deadly weapon statute as permitting postsecondary facilities, local governments, and units of state government to limit concealed carry in governmental buildings; amend KRS 150.172, 237.110, and 527.020 to conform; amend KRS 237.110 to no longer prohibit the carrying of concealed deadly weapons in schools and specify that the prohibition of carrying concealed deadly weapons in airports is limited to areas controlled by the Transportation Security Administration; make technical corrections; amend KRS 527.070 to add persons with valid licenses to carry concealed deadly weapons to the list of those permitted to possess weapons in schools.

### **RECENT STATUS**

2/5/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Judiciary (H)  
1/29/2026 - Introduced

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## **HB547** FISCAL MATTERS *(PETRIE, JASON)*

AN ACT relating to fiscal matters.  
Amend KRS 131.030 to make technical corrections.

### **RECENT STATUS**

2/10/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Appropriations & Revenue (H)  
2/3/2026 - Introduced

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## HB590 BENEFITS FOR KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS *(BRATCHER, STEVE)*

AN ACT relating to benefits for Kentucky National Guard members.

Amend KRS 164.5161 to define "spouse"; rename the National Guard Tuition Award Program the National Guard Tuition Scholarship Program; allow current National Guard members and their spouses up to 130 total credit hours at a postsecondary institution; allow the total number of credit hours to be transferrable between the member and his or her spouse; grant authority to the adjutant general to award up to 45 additional nontransferable credit hours within the program; amend KRS 164.5165 and 164.5169 to conform.

### RECENT STATUS

2/13/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Veterans, Military Affairs, & Public Protection (H)

2/6/2026 - Introduced

HB590 Bill Page →

## HB591 PERFORMING ARTS CAREER PATHWAY *(BRATCHER, STEVE)*

AN ACT relating to a performing arts career pathway.

Amend KRS 158.814 to require the Kentucky Department of Education to develop a career and technical education program or pathway in performing arts.

### RECENT STATUS

2/13/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Primary and Secondary Education (H)

2/6/2026 - Introduced

HB591 Bill Page →

## HB619 PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION *(BRAY, JOSH)*

AN ACT relating to public postsecondary education.

Amend KRS 164.321 to increase the membership of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) board of regents to a total of 17; reduce the terms of membership on a board of regents to 4 years; reduce the number of members allowed to reside in 1 county to 1 member; specify that the nonteaching member of a board of regents shall not be an employee who supervises more than 2 employees or reports directly to the president; specify that a member of a board of regents may be removed if the member does not attend 3 consecutive regularly scheduled meetings and the president requests the member's removal; amend KRS 164.350 to authorize the board of the KCTCS review the president's biennial budget and the budget planning and implementation processes; amend KRS164.365 to make technical corrections; amend KRS 164.580 to distinguish the responsibilities of the president of the KCTCS; create a new section of KRS Chapter 164 to require the president of the KCTCS to employ a chief financial officer and to specify the responsibilities of the chief financial officer; amend KRS 164.583 to make technical corrections; amend KRS 164.591 to require the president of the KCTCS to present a plan for review by the board of regents when considering the reduction, expansion, or creation of colleges, campuses, or programs, allow the president to conditionally implement the plan upon approval of the Council on Postsecondary Education; require KCTCS to submit a report to the appropriate committees of the General Assembly regarding the plan; require final approval of the plan by the General Assembly; require the KCTCS to submit a report to the Legislative Research

Commission for referral to the appropriate committees regarding the properties utilized by the KCTCS; amend KRS 164.600 to define "campus" and "chancellor"; create a board of advisors for the KCTCS made up of the chancellor of each college of the system and others as appointed by the president; specify the responsibilities of the chancellor of each college; amend other sections of KRS Chapter 164 to conform; repeal KRS 164.586, 164.587, 164.594, 164.602, and 164.5833; provide for staggering of initial appointments.

## RECENT STATUS

2/11/2026 - Introduced

[HB619 Bill Page](#) →

## HB642 KENTUCKY TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM *(TIPTON, JAMES)*

AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System.

Amend KRS 161.520 to remove the requirement for dependent children over the age of 18 to have their mental or physical condition approved by a majority of a medical review committee to receive survivor benefits; amend KRS 161.605 to raise the minimum amount a retired reemployed member may earn per day from \$170 to \$200, remove the provision for returning to work 1 month earlier if the member forfeits 1 month of their retirement benefit, reinstate the pension waiver program and prohibit members returning to work under its provisions from returning to work as administrators, and make technical changes; amend KRS 161.608 to clarify that the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) will acknowledge a member's earliest participation date in another state administered retirement system to determine benefit tier; amend KRS 161.620 to allow a member who is a parent to apply for and manage payments to a disabled child without necessity of a court order or other legal authority; amend KRS 161.635 and 161.636 to allow TRS to offer index fund investment options to university and nonuniversity members, to annuitize the investment return on the supplemental benefit applied to the index funds not to exceed 6.1% if there is no COLA in a given year or 4.6% if there is a COLA in the given year, allow TRS to promulgate administrative regulations to establish procedures for disbursements from the supplemental benefit component, and establish that neither the TRS board or staff shall be liable for any losses or claims due to a member's election of an index fund and state that members have the sole responsibility for their investment decisions.

## RECENT STATUS

2/13/2026 - Introduced

[HB642 Bill Page](#) →

## HCR45 BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT *(PETRIE, JASON)*

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION calling on the United States Congress to submit to the states for ratification a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution and making a formal application to Congress under Article V of the United States Constitution to call a convention for the sole purpose of proposing for ratification an amendment to the United States Constitution which requires a balanced federal budget.

Call on the United States Congress to submit to the states for ratification a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution and making a formal application to Congress to call a convention.

## RECENT STATUS

2/3/2026 - (H) Referred to Committee House Elections, Const. Amendments & Intergovernmental Affairs (H)

1/29/2026 - Introduced

[HCR45 Bill Page](#) →

## SB6 ENDOWED RESEARCH FUND *(STIVERS, ROBERT)*

AN ACT relating to the endowed research fund, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring an emergency. Appropriate General Fund moneys in the amount of \$150,000,000 in fiscal year 2026-2027 to the endowed research fund; APPROPRIATION; EMERGENCY.

### RECENT STATUS

1/28/2026 - Introduced

[SB6 Bill Page](#) →

## SB14 PAID MATERNITY LEAVE *(DENEEN, MATTHEW)*

AN ACT relating to paid maternity leave for state employees.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 61 to define "full-time position" and "qualifying employee"; permit a qualifying employee paid leave of absence of up to 30 days for the birth of a child; require leave of more than 1 child during a singular pregnancy to be taken concurrently; require the employee to use the leave within one year of the child's birth; require the employee to use the leave as a continuous 30-day block or as a 20-day block with the remainder to be used intermittently as full days; require the employee to request advance approval before using the leave; require the employee to use the paid leave before other types of accrued leave; require compliance with the Family and Medical Leave Act; specify that any other type of leave not specified does not qualify for paid maternity leave; prohibit an employee from converting the unused balance of paid maternity leave to other types of paid leave, benefits, or compensation; require any administrative regulation in conflict with this Act to be amended, withdrawn, or repealed within 90 days of the effective date of the Act.

### RECENT STATUS

1/6/2026 - Introduced

[SB14 Bill Page](#) →

## SB22 DUAL CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM *(HIGDON, JIMMY)*

AN ACT relating to the dual credit scholarship program.

Amend KRS 164.786 to define "eligible high school apprentice" and "eligible registered teacher apprenticeship program"; include eligible registered teacher apprenticeship programs in the dual credit scholarship program; establish student and school district eligibility and participation requirements in the eligible registered teacher apprenticeship scholarship program. SFA (2) Maintain all original provisions except remove the requirement that a student enrolled in the program achieve a grade of "C" or higher in all courses paid for by the program and require that a student maintain a high school grade point average of 2.75 or higher.

### RECENT STATUS

1/23/2026 - received in House

1/22/2026 - floor amendment (1) withdrawn

1/22/2026 - (S) THIRD READING, passed 36-1 with Floor Amendment (2)

[SB22 Bill Page](#) →

## **SB61** KENTUCKY EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS *(ARMSTRONG, CASSIE CHAMBERS)*

AN ACT relating to Kentucky educational excellence scholarships and declaring an emergency.

Amend KRS 164.7879 to increase the Kentucky educational excellence scholarship base amount for each eligible grade point average; increase the supplemental award amounts; require a supplemental award for eligible Cambridge Advanced International scores; amend KRS 164.7882 to increase the award amount for an eligible student enrolled in a comprehensive transition and postsecondary program; amend KRS 164.7874, 164.7881, 164.7884, and 164.7885 to conform; EFFECTIVE July 1, 2026.

### **RECENT STATUS**

1/9/2026 - Introduced

[SB61 Bill Page](#) →

## **SB63** STUDENT JOURNALIST FREEDOM *(NEAL, GERALD A.)*

AN ACT relating to student journalist freedom.

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 158 to state legislative findings; define terms; establish additional free speech protections for student journalists; place limitations on additional protections; establish protections for student media advisors; require each local school board to adopt a written policy for time, place, and manner restrictions and for an appeals procedure; provide that student speech not be considered school speech; allow for a student journalist or student media advisor to seek injunctive relief; provide that the Act may be cited as the New Voices Act.

### **RECENT STATUS**

1/12/2026 - Introduced

[SB63 Bill Page](#) →

## **SB75** CONCEALED DEADLY WEAPONS *(REED, AARON)*

AN ACT relating to concealed deadly weapons.

Amend KRS 237.109 and 237.110 to lower the age requirement for carrying concealed deadly weapons from 21 to 18; make technical corrections.

### **RECENT STATUS**

1/15/2026 - Introduced

[SB75 Bill Page](#) →

## SB97 COVERAGE FOR PROSTHESES AND ORTHOSES *(GIRDLER, RICK)*

AN ACT relating to coverage for prostheses and orthoses.

Create a new section of Subtitle 17A of KRS Chapter 304 to require health benefit plans to provide coverage for prostheses and orthoses; establish minimum requirements for the required coverage; require utilizations review decisions to be made in a nondiscriminatory manner; require an insurer or its private review agent to provide notice of certain rights of the insured; establish notice requirements for denials; establish network adequacy requirements for the provision of a prosthesis or orthosis that is required to be covered; establish reporting requirements for insurers and the commissioner of the Department of Insurance relating to the required coverage; amend KRS 164.2871 and 18A.225 to require self-insured group health plans offering by the governing board of state postsecondary education institutions and the state employee health plan to comply with the requirements relating to coverage for prostheses and orthoses; provide that the Act applies to health benefit plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2027; EFFECTIVE January 1, 2027.

### RECENT STATUS

1/15/2026 - Introduced

[SB97 Bill Page](#) →

## SB103 PRESCRIPTION DRUGS *(WHEELER, PHILLIP)*

AN ACT relating to prescription drugs.

Amend KRS 304.17A-164 to define terms; prohibit insurers and administrators from requiring insureds to pay cost sharing for a prescription drug that is greater than the cash price; require insurers and administrators to count the amount paid for a covered prescription drug towards the insured's cost-sharing if certain requirements are met; establish requirements for insurers, administrators, and pharmacies for submission of cash price paid by an insured; exempt a state employee health plan from counting third-party payments unless a cash price was paid that is less than the plan's negotiated price; provide for construction of cost-sharing requirements; amend KRS 304.17C-125, 304.38A-115, 164.2871, and 18A.225 to apply cost-sharing requirements to limited health plans, self-insured state postsecondary education institution employer group health plans, and the state employee health plan; create a new section of KRS Chapter 315 to require pharmacies to comply with cost-sharing requirements; provide that cost-sharing requirements apply to health plans issued or renewed on or after effective date; EFFECTIVE, January 1, 2027.

### RECENT STATUS

1/16/2026 - Introduced

[SB103 Bill Page](#) →

## SB105 READING AND WRITING IN SCHOOLS *(THOMAS, REGINALD)*

AN ACT relating to reading and writing in schools.

Amend KRS 158.307 to define "dysgraphia"; require the department to annually update the dyslexia toolkit; require the toolkit to include guidance on dysgraphia and strategies and other resources to be used for students displaying dyslexia and dysgraphia; require universal screeners and diagnostic tools be approved by the department; require each district to use evidence-based instructional strategies to provide intervention services; require school districts to report data to the department; amend KRS 164.304 to require postsecondary institutions offering teacher preparation programs include instruction on the application and implementation of a multitiered system of supports by the 2027-2028 school year.

### RECENT STATUS

1/16/2026 - Introduced

[SB105 Bill Page](#) →

## **SB106** KENTUCKY EDUCATION EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP *(MADON, SCOTT)*

AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Education Excellence Scholarship.

Amend KRS 164.7874 to include the United States Air Force Academy, the United States Military Academy, the United States Naval Academy, the United States Coast Guard Academy, or the United States Merchant Marine Academy to the definition of "participating institution" under the Kentucky Education Excellence Scholarship program if the academy enters into the necessary agreements with the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority.

### **RECENT STATUS**

1/20/2026 - Introduced

[SB106 Bill Page](#) →

## **SB128** PRESCRIPTION DRUGS *(MEREDITH, STEPHEN)*

AN ACT relating to prescription drugs.

Amend KRS 304.17A-164 to define and redefine terms; establish cost-sharing requirements for prescription drugs; require rebates to be passed through; establish confidentiality requirements for the rebate information; create a new section of KRS 365.880 to 365.900 to provide that the actual amount of rebates received is a trade secret; provide that compliance with prescription drug cost-sharing and rebate requirements shall not be in violation of the Uniform Trade Secrets Act; amend KRS 304.17C-125, 304.38A-115, 18A.225, and 164.2871 to apply the cost-sharing and rebate requirements for prescription drugs to limited health service benefit plans, limited health service organizations, the state employee health plan, and self-insured employer group health plans provided by the governing board of a state postsecondary education institution; apply provisions to health plans issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2027; EFFECTIVE January 1, 2027.

### **RECENT STATUS**

1/27/2026 - Introduced

[SB128 Bill Page](#) →

## **SB130** POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION *(NEMES, MICHAEL J.)*

AN ACT relating to postsecondary education.

Create a new section of KRS 164.6941 to 164.6951 to define terms; require an intercollegiate athletics enterprise that provides a cumulative sum of more than \$1,000 to coaches and student-athletes to register for a license with the Council on Postsecondary Education; provide for the terms of the license, require the reporting of contracts and amounts of intercollegiate athletics compensation; set the license fee at 10% of all compensation provided to student-athletes and coaches during the previous year; deposit fees into restricted scholarships account; create a new section of KRS Chapter 164 to distribute moneys to postsecondary institutions proportionally to the intercollegiate athletics compensation received by the institution's student-athletes and coaches; require postsecondary institutions to establish a scholarship program with funds received, set requirements for scholarship program,

EFFECTIVE January 1, 2027.

### RECENT STATUS

2/13/2026 - (S) Referred to Committee Senate State & Local Government (S)

1/28/2026 - Introduced

[SB130 Bill Page](#) →

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## SB185 THE BRANCH BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS (MCDANIEL, CHRISTIAN)

AN ACT relating to branch budget recommendations.

Amend KRS 48.030, relating to branch budget recommendations, to include supporting budget documents.

### RECENT STATUS

2/11/2026 - Introduced

[SB185 Bill Page](#) →

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## SB187 BRANCH BUDGET BILLS (MCDANIEL, CHRISTIAN)

AN ACT relating to branch budget bills.

Amend KRS 48.311, relating to branch budget bills, to make a technical correction.

### RECENT STATUS

2/11/2026 - Introduced

[SB187 Bill Page](#) →

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## SCR96 REESTABLISHING THE DISASTER PREVENTION AND RESILIENCY TASK FORCE (WEBB, ROBIN L.)

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION reestablishing the Disaster Prevention and Resiliency Task Force to study preparedness, mitigation, response, recovery, risk assessment, infrastructure resilience, and planning for natural disasters that impact the Commonwealth. Direct the Legislative Research Commission to reestablish the Disaster Prevention and Resiliency Task Force to study disaster mitigation, infrastructure resilience, and planning for natural disasters that impact the Commonwealth; require the task force to submit recommendations to the Legislative Research Commission by December 1, 2026.

### RECENT STATUS

2/11/2026 - Introduced



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