

KENTUCKY RESOURCES COUNCIL
2024 General Assembly Regular Session
Bills We're Watching: The Third Edition

The 2024 General Assembly has begun and Kentucky Resources Council is again tracking environmental, conservation, consumer, energy, and general government bills and resolutions. We will publish this notice on our website weekly throughout the Session with updates on the bills we are supporting, opposing, or tracking. This summary is complete through end of legislative day 13, January 19, 2024.

This year is a “long” 60-legislative day session and began on January 2, 2024 with an anticipated final day on April 15, 2024. The General Assembly will not be in session on February 19th. March 27th and 28th are set aside as “concurrence” days, and there is a “veto” recess from March 29th through April 9th before the General Assembly reconvenes on April 12th and 15th to consider any vetoes of bills and to finish work on bills and resolutions prior to adjournment *sine die*.

Feel free to forward this to anyone you feel might be interested, and to utilize, reprint or quote from the bill analyses. We ask only that you attribute KRC as the source when you use our analytical material (so we can take all the blame for anything we've gotten wrong!). If you know someone who would like to be added to this list, tell them to write us at hello@kyrc.org. The legislative update will be refreshed and republished each Friday afternoon when the General Assembly is in session.

Please note that the Council *does not* have a position on each bill or resolution listed. Some bills are tracked for general interest; others simply to assure that they do not become vehicles for mischievous amendments. We have formatted this update to highlight in the first section, those bills on which KRC has taken a position.

- Where KRC has taken a position concerning a bill it is indicated with a plus (+) for support, or minus (-) for oppose.
- The primary bill sponsor is then listed, followed by the current status of the bill (noted by Committee or chamber).
- If there is no indication of assignment to a committee, the bill has not yet been assigned and remains in the Committee on Committees, where introduced bills and resolutions are initially sent.

Bills, if passed by the House and Senate and signed by the Governor, become binding law and part of Kentucky's statutes. Resolutions are expressions of opinion or request

by both houses of a legislature, without the force of law (concurrent resolutions); expressions by one house (simple resolutions); or matters of law not to be made a portion of the statutes (joint resolutions).

Here's the key to understanding where a bill is in the process:

H. Ag = House Agriculture

H. A&R = House Appropriations and Revenue Committee

H. B&I = House Banking and Insurance Committee

H. CC = House Committee On Committees – this is the “first stop” for all new bills, from which the bills are assigned to a committee for consideration.

H. Eco Dev = House Economic Development & Workforce Investment Committee H.

Ed = House Education Committee

H. Elections= House Elections, Constitutional Amendments & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

H. FC = House Family and Children Committee

H. HS = House Health Services Committee

H. Judiciary = House Judiciary Committee

H. L&O = House Licensing, Occupations And Adm. Regulations Committee

H. Local Govt = House Local Government Committee

H. Nat Res Energy = House Natural Resources and Energy Committee

H. Rules = House Rules Committee

H. Sm Bus = House Small Business and Information Technology Committee

H. State Govt = House State Government Committee

H. Tourism = House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee

H. Transp = House Transportation Committee

H. Veterans= House Veterans, Military Affairs and Public Protection Committee

S. Ag = Senate Agriculture Committee

S. A&R = Senate Appropriations and Revenue

S. B&I = Senate Banking and Insurance Committee

S. CC = Senate Committee on Committees

S. Eco Dev = Senate Economic Development, Tourism and Labor Committee

S. Ed = Senate Education Committee

S. FC = House Family and Children Committee

S. HS = House Health Services Committee

S. Judiciary = Senate Judiciary Committee

S. L&O = Senate Licensing and Occupations Committee

S. NR Energy = Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee

- S. Rules = Senate Rules Committee
- S. State Local Govt = Senate State and Local Government Committee
- S. Transp = Senate Transportation
- S. Veterans = Senate Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection Committee

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS FOR WHICH KRC HAS TAKEN A POSITION

HB 9 (Decker and others)(H. CC)(-)

Would impose restraints and bans on promotion of diversity, equity, and inclusion in higher educational institutions.

HB 37 (Rep. K. King)(H. CC)(+)

Would require that a “greenhouse gas emissions reduction agreement” be recorded for it to be binding on subsequent purchasers or creditors. This is typical for easements and other constraints running with land during land transfers.

HB 40 (Rep. B. McCool)(H. CC)(+)

Would amend existing statutes to require the board of certification for water treatment and distribution system operators to submit to the Energy and Environment Cabinet recommendations for the establishment of a voluntary certification program for supervisors of certified operators in primary responsible charge of water treatment plants or distribution systems, as well as recommendations for the establishment of a program or strategy for recruiting applicants to work in the operation of water treatment plants or distribution systems who are not currently participating in apprenticeships or certification programs administered by the cabinet.

HB 70 (Rep. Kulkarni)(H. CC)(+)

Would establish a Healthy Soils Program and Fund in the Department for Natural Resources, Division of Conservation to provide technical advice and assistance and to assist with soil health assessments and soil health plans; and require the Agriculture Water Quality Authority to promote soil restoration and include an organic agriculture organization among appointments to the authority.

HB 74 (Rep Kulkarni)(H. CC)(+)

Would establish the Kentucky Urban Farming Youth Initiative to promote farming to youth in urban counties in urban University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service offices.

HB 85 (Rep. Wesley)(H. NR Energy)(-)

Would reduce the number of emergency medical or mine emergency technicians required to be on shift from two to one, if the number of employees on the shift if 10 or less. KRC disagrees with the proposal. Reducing the required medical personnel compromises the ability to ensure swift and effective emergency medical care in the event of accidents or health crises.

HB 91 (Roberts)(H. CC)(+)

Would require the Energy and Environment Cabinet to promulgate administrative regulations to implement a comprehensive program to control explosions and combustion events at metal recycling facilities.

HB 93 (Dossett)(H. CC)(+/-)

This bill would establish the Kentucky Healthy Farm and Food Innovation Board. Healthy Farm and Food Innovation should include environmentally sustainable agricultural processes in the board mission, in addition to integrating farm initiatives and nutritional programs.

HB 94 (Lockett) (H. CC)(-)

This proposed Kentucky Constitutional Amendment would eliminate the existing date by which the General Assembly must adjourn in any regular session provided that no session shall extend beyond December 31st of that year. KRC opposes this movement towards a continuous rather than part-time legislature. The voters have already recently rejected a proposal to extend the calendar of the General Assembly.

HB 116 (Kulkarni, Bratcher)(H. CC)(+)

This bill would establish a PFAS Working Group to research the effect that exposure

to PFAS has on health outcomes in the Commonwealth; and establish a reporting requirement for manufacturers that intentionally include PFAS in products manufactured for sale or distribution in the Commonwealth; and for PFAS releases in the Commonwealth by manufacturers.

PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are synthetic chemicals used in consumer and industrial goods since the 1940s. They are known for breaking down very slowly over time, meaning they endure in the environment. Studies suggest that exposure to some types of PFAS causes harmful health effects in humans and animals. For more information, see: <https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained>.

House Bill 136 (Bauman)(H. Rules)(–, needs significant revision):

Would extend the statutory evidentiary environmental audit privilege currently available for state environmental regulatory programs under KRS 224.01-040 to the air pollution program of the Jefferson County Air Pollution Control District. KRC has concerns regarding the drafting of the bill, as well as underlying concerns that the current state law may be inconsistent with Kentucky’s obligations under the Clean Air Act regarding state regulatory authority over violations.

KRC staff attorney and lobbyist Audrey Ernstberger presented testimony before the House Natural Resources Committee on January 18 regarding these concerns. A copy of the written testimony and video of the committee meeting can be viewed [here](#).

Louisville Public Media's coverage of the bill and KRC's testimony before committee is available [here](#).

HB 141 (Hart)(H. CC)(–)

Would make water fluoridation programs optional and allow the governing bodies of water systems subject to regulation by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to decide whether they participate in water fluoridation programs. Consistent with our historic position, KRC believes that fluoridation meeting state and federal standards, as a tool for advancing oral hygiene, is recognized as an important and effective public health initiative. Further, any issues pertaining to state water fluoridation should be addressed administratively through the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

HB 180 (Willner, J. Nemes)(H. CC)(+)

Would create standards prohibiting the disconnection of service by retail electric and gas utilities at certain times, for example, during extreme-weather seasons and during holidays.

HB 197 (Roberts)(H.CC)(+)

Would require the Energy and Environment Cabinet to send notice of a violation issued to a recycling facility to the local governing body where a recycling facility is located.

HB 255 (Pratt)(H. CC)(-)

Would prohibit the department of workplace standards from promulgating regulations on child labor that are more restrictive than those promulgated by the United States Secretary of Labor. KRC believes that Kentucky regulatory policy should not be shackled to the minimum standards adopted by any federal agency, but instead should be free to adopt those standards deemed advisable and necessary to assure a safe and healthy workplace for all Kentuckians.

HB 283 (Camuel, Stevenson)(H. CC)(+)

Would require any owner, operator, lessee, or licensee of a coal mine holding a license under KRS 337.200 that has been doing business in the Commonwealth for fewer than five consecutive years to submit a certification from the commissioner of the Department of Workplace Standards that the licensee is compliant with or exempt from the performance bonding requirements of KRS 337.200.

HB 295 (Brown, Chester-Burton)(H. CC)(+)

Would place on the ballot a proposed state constitutional amendment to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude in all circumstances, including as punishment for a crime.

HB 302 (Raymond)(H. CC)(+)

Would place on the ballot a state constitutional amendment to establish a right of the people to have a healthy environment, including a right to clean air, pure water, and

ecologically healthy habitats; declare the Commonwealth's natural resources, among them its air, water, flora, fauna, climate, and public lands, are the common property of all people, including generations yet to come; and establish that as trustee of the environment and its natural resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all people.

HB 305 (Calloway)(H. CC)(-)

Would weaken compliance with state uniform building code by defining violations narrowly to mean only nonconformity with the code threatening specific measurable imminent personal danger or building instability.

HB 311 (C. Stevenson)(+)

Create a new section of KRS Chapter 411 to define "passenger compartment"; provide civil immunity for damaging a car or truck if a person enters it with a reasonable, good faith belief that a dog or cat is in imminent danger of death if not removed.

House Resolutions

HR2 (Osborne and Rudy)(Adopted)(-)

This resolution, adopted by the House on January 2, 2024, outlines the rules for legislative procedure in during the 2024 Regular Session. KRC is concerned that these rules frustrate transparent government operation, consolidating power in the hands of majority leadership, waiving bill readings, and adopting other provisions that result in legislators and the general public having little opportunity to review and comment on the proposed legislation. Transparency and accountability should be the rule, and not the exception.

HR 5 (Roberts)(H. CC)(+)

This proposed rule changes would establish a more transparent, more accountable, and therefore more just, system for management of bills and resolutions in the House.

HRs 6-20 (Rabourn)(H. CC)(+)

These proposed rule changes would establish a more transparent, more accountable, and therefore more just, system for management of bills and resolutions in the House.

HJR 40 (McCool)(H. CC)(-)

Would have Kentucky apply for a Title V Constitutional convention to consider amendments to the U.S. Constitution to impose fiscal constraints, limit federal power, and impose term limits. KRC opposes a Title V constitutional convention as what constitutional scholars consider an open-ended venue for potential amendments to the constitution that could adversely affect the bill of rights and other constitutional protections for individuals and minority populations. There are already term limits, which are called “elections,” and no current constitutional impediment to fiscal responsibility.

Senate Bills

SB 16 (Schickel)(S. Ag)(-)

Would criminalize as “agricultural operation interference” the nongovernmental operation of unmanned aircraft, video or audio recording devices, or photography equipment on or above a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) or commercial food manufacturing or processing facility without written consent of the owner or authorized representative of the facility. If enacted, would criminalize citizen monitoring of compliance by regulated CAFO and food processing operations, with applicable environmental and other laws. Premise that overflying and photographing or otherwise documenting visual compliance of commercial or regulated animal feedlot operation is in any way “interfering” with the operation is, proverbially, hogwash.

SB 35 (Deneen)(S. A&R)(+)

Would establish the Trail Town operations grant fund to assist in maintaining, renovating, and marketing trails, fund to be managed by the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.

SB 37 (Southworth)(S. State Local Govt)(+)

Would create open records training requirements for custodians of open records in state government agencies.

SB 59 (Boswell)(S. NR Energy)(-)

Would exempt the illegal taking of Cooper’s Hawks and Red-Tailed Hawks from state fines or penalties. Both species are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and selectively exempting these two hawk species from penalties that would otherwise be available to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is arbitrary and contrary to public policy. Taking either species would still be a federal crime and should be so in Kentucky. Furthermore, passage of this statute might result in confusion and result in individuals violating and being prosecuted under federal law.

SB 60 (Boswell)(S. NR Energy)(-)

Would prohibit the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife from imposing a hunter education requirement for a person to obtain a hunting or fishing license or permit. KRC supports hunter education, and believes the bill is not needed since there is no current requirement for showing education proof before obtaining a license.

SB 101 (Webb and others)(S. L&O)(+/-)

Would prohibit a city, town, county, or other political subdivision of the Commonwealth from restricting a person from engaging in an agritourism activity and expand the definition “agritourism activity” to include horseback riding; horse-drawn carriage rides; livestock or poultry shows; petting farms; rodeos; or any activity that has historically involved the utilization of working animals.

SB 119 (Neal, Givens)(S. CC)(+)

Would place on the ballot a proposed state constitutional amendment to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude in all circumstances.

Senate Resolutions

SR 28 (Neal)(S. Floor)(+)

Memorial resolution honoring late Governor Carroll.

SR 29 (Thayer)(S. Floor)(+)

Memorial resolution honoring late Governor Brereton Jones.

SJR 84 (Mills and others)(S. CC)(-)

Would apply to Congress under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States for the calling of a convention of the states limited to proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States that impose fiscal restraint on the federal government, limit the powers and jurisdiction of the federal government, and limit the terms of office for its officials and members of Congress.

Constitutional scholars doubt that a constitutional convention can be so limited. Nothing in the current constitution prevents the Congress from acting with fiscal restraint, and there are already term limits for members of Congress and the executive branch, which are elections.

Other Bills & Resolutions of Note

Listed below are bills and resolutions on which KRC has not taken a position, but which we believe are of public interest or concern, and which affect one or more facets of justice, personal freedom, and social responsibility. Some we are continuing to analyze. They are presented for your consideration.

House Bills

HB 18 (Dotson)(H. State Govt)

Create new sections of KRS Chapter 65 to prohibit local governments from adopting or enforcing ordinances that prohibit owners of housing accommodations from refusing to lease or rent the housing accommodation to a person when the person's source of income to pay rent includes funding from a federal housing assistance

program. KRC believes that discrimination against potential renters receiving federal housing assistance, is inappropriate.

HB 23 (Pratt)(H. Local Govt, reassigned to H. L&O)

Would require a working smoke detector to be present in any residence sold.

HB 24 (Pratt)(H. CC)

Establish consumer rights relating to personal data, including the rights to confirm whether data is being processed, to delete personal data provided by the consumer.

HB 27 (Fister)(H. Local Govt)

Would exempt soil and water conservation districts from the audits required of a “special purpose government entity.”

HB 38 (Tipton)(H. CC)

Would abolish the death penalty and replace it with life imprisonment without parole for existing prisoners.

HB 41 (Callaway)(H. CC)

Would prohibit provision of monetary or in-kind incentives to any institution to encourage immunization.

HB 44 (Hodgston)(H. Elections)

Would require each circuit clerk to prepare a weekly list of all persons who were excused from jury duty for not being a United States citizen.

HB 47 (Rawlings)(H. CC)

Would revise law concerning government substantially burdening exercise of religion.

HB 59 (Massaroni)(H. CC)

Propose to amend Section 170 of the Constitution of KY to provide the General Assembly the authority to exempt all or a portion of any tax and the related provisions of that tax.

HB 72 (Kulkarni)(H.CC)

Would decriminalize possession of cannabis for personal use.

HB 75 (Kulkarni)(H. CC)

Would amend current law to specify duties of landlord with respect to abandoned personal property.

HB 76 (Kulkarni)(H. CC)

Would update the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.

HB 89 (Brown)(H. CC)

Would prohibit employers from considering or requiring disclosure of prior criminal history as part of the initial job application.

HB 90 (Roberts)(H. CC)

Would license, tax, and regulate production of cannabis.

HB 96 (Fister)(H. CC)

Would require moments of silence of reflection at the start of each school day and establish guidelines.

HB 100 (Witten)(H. State Govt)

Would provide that a homeless individual does not have to pay a fee to get a copy of his or her birth certificate.

HB 102 (Doan)(H. Local Govt)

Would amend planning and zoning laws to require local governments to prioritize

housing within applicable zones by easing minimum square footage requirements and aesthetic design requirements; facilitating the location of multifamily housing, accessory dwelling units, tiny homes, and manufactured housing; facilitating the permitting and variance process; easing minimum parking requirements, and standards for home occupations; and requiring that zoning laws have a substantial connection to protection of public safety, health, and usage of property.

HB 104 (Frazier Gordon)(H. CC)

Would increase juror pay to \$50 per day.

HB 106 (Maddox)(H. CC)

Similar to SB 5 and 55, would remove the requirement that resident landowners must own five or more acres of farmland to be exempt from sport hunting license requirements when hunting on their own lands, and that the farmland owner sport fishing license exemption and allows any person fishing on private property with the permission of the landowner to do so without procuring a sport fishing license.

HB 110 (Graham)(H.C C)

Beshear Administration's Proposed Transportation Cabinet Budget.

HB 111 (Huff)(H. CC)

Proposed Kentucky Constitution amendment would include in the homestead exemption for owners who are 65 years of age or older any increase in the valuation of the real property that is assessed after the later of the year the owner turned 65 or the year the owner purchased the property.

HB 114 (Graham)(H. CC)

Beshear Administration proposed Executive Branch Budget.

HB 121 (Flannery)(H. CC)

Would create pilot program for allowing Off-Highway Vehicles to use roadways, and to require registration and proof of insurance.

HB 128 (Herron, Brown)(H. CC)

Would require any employer in Kentucky that receives government incentives or does business with the state, federal or local government to pay a living wage.

HB 130 (McPherson)(H. Ag)

Would create process for discontinuance of watershed conservancy districts that fail to meet for over a year or to adopt budgets.

HB 135 (Bauman)(H. CC)

Would provide that no solid waste management district could compel the production or submission of confidential business information, defined as a customer price or service list, from a solid waste management service company.

HB 140 (Hart)(H. CC)

Would remove the requirement that resident owners of farmlands must own five or more acres to be exempt from sport hunting and sport fishing license requirements when hunting or fishing on their own farmlands. KRC does not oppose the concept people being allowed to hunt or fish in ponds or lakes on their own property. Fishing in a stream or river should, KRC believes, still require a license however, the bill would now create an exemption. It is also a concern that “farmland” is not defined in KRS 150 or any other KRS for that matter which would lead to some enforcement issues as to what constitutes a farm. KRC will speak with the sponsor about clean-up language. (see also: SB 5)

HB 151 (Aull)(H. CC)

Would extend voting hours from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

HB 152 (Aull)(H. CC)

Would remove straight-ticket voting as a ballot option in an election.

HB 153 (Aull)(H. CC)

Would adopt interstate compact to elect the president by national popular vote.

HB 160 (Kulkarni)(H. CC)

Would propose Kentucky constitutional amendment to guarantee the right of an individual 21 years of age or older to possess, use, buy, or sell one ounce or less of cannabis and to cultivate, harvest, and store up to 5cannabis plants for personal use; and for the production, processing, and sale of cannabis and cannabis-derived products to be controlled by the General Assembly.

HB 171 (Hale)(H. CC)

Would create a process for installing and removing statues, monuments, or objects of art on permanent display in the New State Capitol or on New State Capitol campus grounds and require approval by the General Assembly.

HB 172 (Doan)(H. CC)

Would require that property owners who must relocate as a result of a condemnation be compensated for discount points necessary to maintain the interest rate.

HB 175 (Flannery)(H. CC)

Would require the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville to obtain approval from the General Assembly before acquiring a hospital that is licensed to provide abortions.

HB 176 (Flannery)(H. CC)

Would increase the pay to jurors from \$5 per day to \$25 per day.

HB 178 (J. Nemes)(H. Judiciary)

Would create a cause of action for a person who was wrongfully convicted of a felony in the Commonwealth.

HB 183 (Tate)(H. CC)

Would prohibit the denial of a petition for adoption by an applicant with a disability and require the Cabinet to make reasonable effort to accommodate individuals with a disability in adoption programs.

HB 185 (Tackett Laferty)(H. CC)

Would establish a coal-country paramedic scholarship that would be administered by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

HB 187 (Aull, Burke)(H. CC)

Would establish the Kentucky Indigent Persons' Burial Program.

HB 190 (Sharp)(H. CC)

Would prohibit insurers, pharmacy benefit managers, and other pharmacy benefit administrators from requiring or incentivizing the use of mail-order pharmaceutical distributor.

HB 206(Dietz)(H. CC)

Would create a "collaborative law participation agreement" system and make it an alternative dispute resolution mechanism for disputes involving family or domestic relations laws that would typically be heard in Family Court.

HB 208 (Calloway)(H. CC)

Would amend Kentucky's Constitution to authorize the General Assembly to provide parents of limited financial means a portion of their child's educational costs to attend a school outside of the public school system.

HB 211 (Herron)(H. CC)

Would establish a program for harm reduction centers, which would offer a variety of health-related services tailored reduce the harm of substance use.

HB 212 (Wesley)(H. CC)

Would allow rescue squad members to participate in the Alan “Chip” Terry Professional Development and Wellness Program.

HB 214 (Hart)(H. CC)

Would codify the rights of individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability and establish a cause of action for the Attorney General to institute a civil action for a violation of this right.

HB 216 (Graham and others)(H.CC)

Would appropriate \$95 million from the budget reserve trust fund in fiscal year 2023-2024 to fund one-time supplemental payments to recipients of a retirement allowance from the Kentucky Employees Retirement System (KERS) and the State Police Retirement System (SPRS).

HB 217 (Hale and others)(H. Tourism)

Would remove the requirement that resident owners of farmlands must own five or more acres of land in order to be exempt from sport hunting and sport fishing license requirements when hunting or fishing on their own farmlands.

HB 240 (Burke and others)(H. CC)

Would require an owner or custodian of a firearm to store the firearm in a safe storage depository or to render the firearm incapable of being fired using a gun-locking device and require an owner or other person lawfully in possession of a firearm or any person who sells ammunition to report the loss or theft of the firearm or ammunition to a law enforcement agency.

HB 242 (Maddox)(H. CC)

Would allow certain USDA-exempted poultry processors to sell to end consumers on a farm, at a farmers market, or at a roadside stand.

HB 235 (Witten)(H. CC)

Would require animal control officers to receive training on identifying and reporting suspected child abuse and neglect.

House Resolutions

HJR 28 (Doan)(H. CC)

Simple resolution would direct Kentucky Transportation Cabinet to study the cost and benefits of increasing the maximum interstate highway speed limit.

HJR 29 (Doan)(H. CC)

Appropriate \$100k in General Fund moneys in the fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Forest Stewardship Incentives Fund.

Senate Bills

SB 5 (G. Williams, Thayer)(To House)

Would remove the requirement that resident owners of farmlands must own five or more acres to be exempt from sport hunting and sport fishing license requirements when hunting or fishing on their own farmlands. KRC does not oppose the concept people being allowed to hunt or fish in ponds or lakes on their own property. Fishing in a stream or river should, KRC believes, still require a license. However, the bill would now create an exemption. It is also a concern that “farmland” is not defined in KRS 150 or any other KRS for that matter which would lead to some enforcement issues as to what constitutes a farm. KRC will speak with the sponsor about clean-up language.

SB 10 (McDaniel)(S. Rules)

Proposed Kentucky constitutional amendment would change state constitutional officer elections to even-numbered years beginning after the November 2027 election.

SB 15 (Westerfield)(S. Eco Dev)

Would define various consumer rights related to personal data collection and empower office of Attorney General to enforce.

SB 22 (Westerfield)(S. A&R)

Would increase juror compensation to \$125 per day.

SB 23 (M. Nemes)(S. State Local Govt)

Proposed Kentucky constitutional amendment to include in the homestead exemption for owners who are 65 years of age or older any increase in the valuation of the real property that is assessed after the later of the year the owner turned 65 or the year the owner purchased the property.

SB 25 (West)(S. CC)

Would prohibit local governments from adopting or enforcing ordinances requiring landlords to accept Section 8 HUD support for lessees. KRC opposes discrimination against persons with low and limited incomes.

SB 39 (Southworth)(S. State Local Govt)

Would prohibit legislative agents or employers of legislative agents from making campaign contributions to legislators, candidates, campaign committees for legislators or candidates, caucus campaign committees, or permanent committees that donate to or make independent expenditures for legislators at any time.

SB 41 (Harper Angel)(S. Ag)

Would prohibit retail pet shops from selling dogs or cats; and prohibit the sale or transfer of ownership of a dog or cat in a publicly accessible space.

SB 42 (R. Thomas)(S. A&R)

Would incrementally raise minimum wage to \$15.00 an hour increase for employers of \$500,000 average annual gross volume of sales for the employer and include anti-

preemption language permitting local governments to establish higher minimum wages.

SB 54 (R. Thomas)(S. A&R)

Would adopt the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act.

SB 55 (Boswell, Douglass)(S. NR Energy)

Would allow a bona fide resident landowner and other authorized persons to take fish from any lake or pond located on the owner's property without procuring a sport fishing license. The bill is similar to SB 5 but applies to the landowner rather than "farmland." In regard to creating a license exemption for fishing, it only applies to lakes and ponds so a license would still be required for fishing in a stream or river. It also allows a landowner to give permission to fish on his property and that person would be license exempt as well. The bill goes further and completely exempts the lakes or ponds on private property from any limits on method, bag, creel, or size as well as any applicable season date which could cause regulatory issues with commercial pay lakes.

An aspect of this bill of concern is that it could be read to allow a landowner to stock their pond with anything but invasive species, yet invasive is not defined anywhere in statute or regulation and the only "invasive" species on the prohibited list is carp. There are non-native species that the Department prohibits that could be detrimental to native populations but would not be considered "invasive." KRC will discuss with the sponsor possible amendment to address this last concern.

SB 56 (Neal)(S. Veterans)

Would require an owner or custodian of a firearm to store the firearm in a safe storage depository or render the firearm incapable of being fired using a gun-locking device and require an owner or other person lawfully in possession of a firearm or any person who sells ammunition to report the loss or theft of the firearm or ammunition to a law enforcement agency.

SB 61 (Schickel)(S. State Local Govt)

Would eliminate no-excuse in-person absentee voting and provide that excused in-

person absentee voting shall be conducted during normal business hours for at least 13 working days before an election.

SB 66 (Southworth)(S. Veterans)

Would repeal KRS 237.115, which interprets the application of the license to carry concealed deadly weapon statute as permitting post-secondary facilities and state and local governments to limit concealed carry in governmental buildings.

SB 65 (West)(S. State Local Govt)

Would nullify three emergency medical regulations found deficient during 2023 interim.

SB 70 (Wheeler and others)(S. L&O)

Would provide that charitable organizations that accept contributions pursuant to an endowment agreement must abide by the terms of the endowment agreement; allow civil action by donor against a charitable organization that violates the terms of the endowment agreement.

SB 72 (Yates)(S. Judiciary)

Would prohibit driving under the influence of intoxicating hemp products.

SB 74 (Yates)(S. FC)

Would retroactively decriminalize possession, cultivation, or trafficking of marijuana up to 8 ounces or 5 plants.

SB 76 (West)(S. State Local Govt)

Would prohibit local government from adopting or enforcing landlord – tenant ordinances conflicting with state law.

SB 78 (Southworth, Tichenor)(S. State Local Govt)

Would require that voting systems contain components and subcomponents that are

only manufactured, integrated, and assembled in the United States.

SB 80 (Southworth, Tichenor)(S. State Local Govt)

Would remove student or employee identification document as proof of voter's identity; and remove a credit or debit card as a secondary form of identification to confirm a voter's identity.

SB 83 (Southworth)(S. State Local Govt)

Would remove straight-party voting as a ballot option in a regular election

SB 93 (Meredith and others)(S. CC)

Would prohibit public school districts and schools from engaging in diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging or political or social activism except as necessary to provide for state or federal law. And eliminates references to a trauma-informed approach.

SB 96 (Armstrong)(S. Judiciary)

Would create a process to automatically expunge misdemeanors, violations, and traffic infractions after five years, beginning in August 2025.

SB 106 (Tichenor)(S. CC)

Would create requirement for animal control officers to be trained in identifying, and reporting, suspected child abuse or neglect.

Senate Resolutions

SR 5 (Thayer)(Adopted)

Resolution adopting the Rules of the Senate for 2024 Session.

SCR 47 (Southworth)(S. Transp)

Urge the United States Congress to repeal the REAL ID Act of 2005,

STAY INFORMED DURING THE 2024 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS:

Find your legislator at:

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/findyourlegislator/findyourlegislator.html>

General Assembly Membership Lists and Leadership

*You can find each lawmaker's contact info, biographical info, committee assignments and sponsored legislation here):

<https://legislature.ky.gov/Legislators/Pages/default.aspx>

Leave a message for a legislator on the message line:

Call 1-800-372-7181 to leave a message for a legislator or an entire committee.
En Espanol, el nombre es 1-866-840-6574.

To directly reach a lawmaker's office, call 502-564-8100. An operator will transfer the call to the office of the lawmaker you want to reach.

2024 REGULAR SESSION RECORD & CALENDARS

To find copies of bills, votes, calendars, and other information:

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/24rs/record.html>

To find out bill status by phone, call 1-866-840-2835.

2024 Regular Session Legislative Calendar:

https://legislature.ky.gov/Documents/24RS_Calendar.pdf

2024 Regular Session Standing Committee Schedule:

https://legislature.ky.gov/Documents/24RS_Standing_Schedule.pdf

There is also a daily schedule published on the preceding day, which may alter the standing committee schedule to cancel a meeting, or to propose a special meeting.

The daily legislative calendar shows which committees are meeting and when the Senate and House will convene, and is found here:

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/LegislativeCalendar>

Livestreams of legislative action can be viewed through feeds provided by Kentucky Educational Television (KET) and the Legislative Research Commission (LRC). For links to the livestreams, go to:
<https://legislature.ky.gov/Public%20Services/PIO/Pages/Live-Streams.aspx>.

The online Legislative Record

(<https://legislature.ky.gov/Legislation/Pages/default.aspx>) has information on every piece of legislation introduced in the Senate and House. You can read summaries, the full text of bills, resolutions, amendments and see exactly how far each piece of legislation has advanced in the process. Bills can be looked up according to bill number, sponsor or topic. If a bill has been voted on in a chamber, you can see how each lawmaker voted by clicking “Vote History” on a bill’s summary page.

Bill Watch, a bill tracking service, provided through a partnership of Kentucky.gov and LRC, sends users email notifications each time a bill they are interested in takes a step forward. To sign up for Bill Watch, go to <https://www.kentucky.gov/services/pages/billwatch.aspx>

Information about legislative committees is available at <https://legislature.ky.gov/Committees/Pages/default.aspx>. To view materials such as info sheets, handouts and PowerPoint presentations that are compiled for lawmakers to review at committee meetings, click on the “Meeting Materials” tab on the right side of each committee’s page.

If you have a question about the lawmaking process or legislative resources, the LRC Public Information Office can be reached by calling 502-564-8100 ext. 59105.