

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill	Blue Bill # HB 43						
	Referred to Committee: House 2						
Authors: Jan Isenhardt, Nick Landis, Luc Brazeau, Chris Jumps	Action on the Bill <table> <tr> <td>House</td> <td>Senate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> </tr> </table>	House	Senate	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
House		Senate					
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School: North Oldham High School							
City: Goshen							

1 An act to require all Kentucky public schools to raise the graduation rate

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3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

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5 Section 1: The 2009 Senate Bill 1 was designed to increase the high school graduation rate to 98% by
6 2022. Although Kentucky plans on lowering the dropout rate, action will be taken in the nearer future. The
7 current law requires all students to attend school up to age 16, however to improve the graduation rate
8 Kentucky students should be required to attend school up to age 18 beginning in the 2014-2015 school
9 year. To graduate from a Kentucky public school, students must acquire 22 credits, 17 in subjects specified
10 by the Kentucky Board of Education.

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12 Section 2: Kentucky Governor Steve Breshear has commended school boards that adopted the policy of
13 keeping students in school until either they earn a high school diploma or turn 18. Already 96 school
14 districts, out of the 174 school districts, in Kentucky have incorporated these policies. The current policy
15 does not mandate change until 2018.

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17 Section 3: Students in Kentucky will be given a maximum of 5, full, school day absences. Exceptions to the
18 number of school day absences include anything related to: life threatening disease and family issues such
19 military deployment. Extenuating circumstances may be appealed to a local school board.

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21 Section 4: Students who abuse their school rights, and miss more than the maximum number of school days
22 permitted, will have the punishment fall on the parents. For the first offense, there will be a fine of \$250. The
23 second offense will double to \$500. Anything from and after a third offense will make the parents eligible for
24 jail time. The amount of jail time served will be decided by a judge and a jury in a Kentucky courtroom. By
25 creating harsh punishments for students' parents, there will be a decrease in unexcused absences. When the
26 parents are serving time in jail, their children will be placed in the care of Foster Care or a family member.

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28 Section 5: By improving grades and earning credits, Kentucky students will have larger amounts of funds
29 provided from the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA) for college. The Kentucky
30 Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) provides college funds to students based on their Grade-Point
31 Average (GPA).

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33 Section 6: This bill will be enforced and funded by the government through the KHEAA. Truancy Officers will
34 be required to investigate the continued absences of students.

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36 Section 7: This bill will take effect the following school year, 2014-2015.