KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION **KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY** **Premiere Bill**	**Blue | Bill # SBP 06** **Referred to Committee:** **Senate 1**
Authors: Harrison Clarke, Timothy Douglas, Danielle Gibson, Ian Edgington	**Action on the Bill**
School: Mason County High School	**House** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated **Senate** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated
City: Maysville	

An act to prohibit Mountaintop Removal (MTR) in Kentucky.

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

Section 1: Mountaintop removal (MTR) is the physical removal of the top of a mountain to extract coal.

Section 2: Mountaintop removal has many negative environmental consequences. These include:
- acid runoff into streams and rivers.
- children living nearby suffering from vomiting and blue baby syndrome.
- buildings built on site experiencing foundation issues and collapse.
- coal sludge left behind in dams contaminating soil, forcing residents to vacate the area if a dam breaks.

Section 3: This will be enforced by environmental regulators conducting checks on mining sites every six months; not allowing violators to gain any other type of mining permits; and allowing current permits to expire. No new permits will be issued after Jan 1, 2014. In addition to these, companies or individuals that have practiced mountaintop removal or mining related to MTR within the past 10 years will be responsible for beginning and maintaining habitat reconstruction and restoration of the sites.

Section 4: The penalties for those who continue engaging in MTR will include fines and jail sentences. After the first offense the violator will be fined $25,000 and will be required to restore the habitat of that area. After the second offense they will be given 5 years jail time and a fine of $25,000, and will be required to restore the habitat. Subsequent offenses will result in an additional fine of $25,000.

Section 5: There will be little cost to this bill since the environmental regulators will keep their jobs and there will be little economic impact since Kentucky is already transitioning to renewable energy sources.

Section 6: This bill will go into effect January 1, 2014.