

 <b>KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill</b>	<b>Blue   Bill # 27</b>						
	<b>Referred to Committee: House 5</b>						
<b>Authors:</b> Kavonte Jones, Michael Kotarski, Tatum Feiler	<b>Action on the Bill</b>						
<b>School:</b> John Hardin HS							
<b>City:</b> Elizabethtown							
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>House</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>Senate</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> </tr> </table>	<b>House</b>	<b>Senate</b>	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
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1 Title: An act to Establish a Community Labor Program for Indigent Defendants Owing Court Fines

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

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5 Section 1: In Kentucky, significant numbers of incarcerations result from failures to pay fines. When a person

6 defaults on court-levied fines, a warrant is issued for his/her arrest. Subsequent incarceration results in a

7 minimum cost to the county of \$40 per day per defendant.

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9 Section 2: This bill will implement the County Attorney’s Community Labor Program which will provide

10 poverty-stricken, nonviolent defendants with an opportunity for court-appointed work placement in lieu of

11 incarceration for unpaid court fines. KRS 534.020 states that an alternate sentence to jail, in lieu of a fine,

12 cannot be imposed at the time a fine is ordered. Therefore, assignment to the Community Labor Program will

13 be made one year after the assessed fine. If the default in fine payment, after one year, is determined to be

14 the result of a defendant’s inability to pay that fine, an Affidavit of Indigence will be presented to the court.

15 The qualifying defendant will be sentenced to one day in jail and will be assessed a fee of \$40 before he/she

16 can be placed in the community labor program. The \$40 assessment fee will fund the management of the

17 program.

18

19 Section 3: Rather than receiving pay for performed work, credit will be awarded to participants at an

20 equivalent rate of \$8 per hour worked. This credit will go toward paying off the fines that the defendant was

21 unable to pay.

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23 Section 4: Each County Attorney’s office in Kentucky will carry out this community labor program. The office

24 shall maintain a list of agencies—nonprofit corporations, charitable institutions, and public agencies—willing

25 to accept and supervise persons sentenced under this program. The County Attorney’s office will assign

26 work placement and will monitor a defendant’s service and compliance. Failure to comply with work site

27 contract—as related, but not limited to, dress, language, effort, arrival time--will result in immediate release

28 from the labor program and subsequent incarceration for nonpayment of fines.

29

30 Section 5: This bill will be enacted one year after its passage.