

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill	Red Bill # 39						
	Referred to Committee: House 3						
Authors: Ben Gillig	Action on the Bill						
School: Todd Street School							
City: Frankfort							
	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">House</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">Senate</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>	House	Senate	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	____ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
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1 An act to increase access to high speed Wi-Fi broadband internet service throughout Kentucky.
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3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**
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5 JUSTIFICATION CLAUSE: Even though 91.5% of Kentucky has broadband internet coverage, it operates too
6 slowly for modern technology devices, and many people still do not have access to affordable high speed
7 internet. In fact, Kentucky ranks 47th out of 50 states in access to high speed internet. The majority of
8 people with high speed internet access live in the Golden Triangle, the triangle formed by Louisville,
9 Lexington, and Northern Kentucky. That area has roughly 2.25 million people or 55 percent of the
10 population. In rural areas and for low income people access to high speed internet is limited or nonexistent.
11 But even in the best internet access areas, many people are excluded due to gaps in service areas and
12 affordability. Private internet providers of "hot spots" are not enough to close remaining gaps. Every citizen
13 in Kentucky should have access to free high speed WiFi broadband internet service within five
14 miles of their home or business.
15
16 Section 1: All counties in Kentucky will survey broadband internet speeds and availability and create internet
17 access points with a high speed internet connection where none now exist. Counties will create free high
18 speed internet hot spot access points which are "always on" and provide access 24 hours a day, seven days
19 a week (24/7). By the year 2020, high speed broadband service will be available to the public at no cost at
20 access points within five miles of 95% of all homes and businesses in each county.
21
22 Section 2: Locations shall be chosen by the county if gaps between access points are larger than five miles,
23 and chosen by the city if gaps located in the city are larger than five miles. Suitable locations could be at
24 public libraries, government buildings, schools, YMCAs, and other locations that the public can easily get to.
25
26 Section 3: Equipment for high speed WiFi broadband internet will be installed and maintained by the county if
27 there are gaps between access points larger than five miles.
28
29 Section 4: Each county shall fund the cost of access points from its regular budget or other sources such as
30 bonds. Connecting people and businesses to high speed internet will increase jobs, improve education, and
31 work speeds, which could potentially increase tax revenues.
32
33 Section 5: The Commonwealth Office of Broadband Outreach and Development will work with counties to
34 improve access and will verify compliance in 2020.
35
36 Section 6: This bill will go into effect no later than January 1, 2015.