

 <p>KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill</p>	Blue Bill # 14						
	Referred to Committee: House 3						
Authors: Jonathan Hauke, Hayden Krampe, Lucas Humel, Jyotirmayi Jadhav	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: Holy Name of Jesus School							
City: Henderson							

1 An act to reduce the number of pre-term births in the state of Kentucky
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3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**
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5 Section 1: Women of reproductive age, defined as ages fifteen to forty, will be encouraged to have regular
6 care visits using advertising via billboards and commercials. Those who are pregnant will be provided with
7 easy access to quality health care and services that will promote the prevention of substance abuse. Home
8 health care visits will also be provided to expectant mothers who cannot easily access health care centers.
9 Women who cannot afford prenatal visits will be given financial aid, and prenatal clinics will be given
10 frequent routine inspections. These measures will be instituted by funds from government grants and private
11 money.
12
13 Section 2: The mother, family members, and friends will be educated on the importance of carrying a baby to
14 full term. They will also learn about the risks of having a pre-term baby unnecessarily and how it will affect
15 both the mother and the child. Women can be informed of how to prevent pre-term births from classes at
16 school or at the doctor. The message of helping to reduce the chances of pre-term births will be emphasized
17 through social media such as commercials and billboards.
18
19 Section 3: Mothers who knowingly deny the benefits of prenatal care and subject themselves and the unborn
20 child to risks will be penalized, especially those who perform hazardous acts, such as excessive smoking,
21 drug abuse, and alcohol consumption. A trial will be conducted by a jury appointed by the state medical
22 board and the penalties will be based upon the severity of the harm done to the mother and the child. The
23 penalties could range from a warning (for inadequate prenatal care) to jail time (for acts such as drug abuse
24 during a pregnancy).
25
26 Section 4: Statistics: One in seven babies in the state of Kentucky is born before 37 weeks. This
27 demonstrates that 15% of the children in Kentucky are born premature, compared to the 12% national
28 average. Kentucky has the highest incidence of smoking in the nation. Approximately one in four women
29 smoke during their pregnancy compared to one in ten nationally. That is 25% in Kentucky and 10%
30 nationally. It is well known that smoking during pregnancy will cause an increase in incidence of pre-term
31 delivery and other complications in newborns. Additionally, 25% of women fail to see their doctor during the
32 first trimester (first three months) of their pregnancy - which is a critical developmental stage.
33
34 Section 5: This bill will go into effect on July 1, 2015.