

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	Blue BG 40						
	Referred to Committee: Senate 5						
Authors: Ben Gillig	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					
___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed		___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed					
___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated						
School: Todd Street School							
City: Frankfort							

1 An act to Create a Harmful Algal Bloom Prevention Team in the Kentucky Division of Water
2
3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**
4
5 Section 1: Kentucky’s waterways and groundwater are at serious risk from the increase in harmful algal
6 blooms (HABs). In 2015 a record breaking toxic algal bloom stretched 636 miles on the Ohio River
7 surpassing the previous record of 30 miles. Many Kentucky lakes and ponds are impaired by HABs.
8 Harmful Algal Blooms produce cyanotoxins. These toxins are harmful to all forms of life. Nutrient run off
9 is one of the leading causes of HABs.
10
11 Section 2: This act will create within the Kentucky Division of Water a “HAB Prevention Team.” This Team
12 will assess nutrient pollution, identify and prioritize waterways at potential risk for HABs through water
13 quality testing, with the goals of preventing HABs, improving frequency of water sampling and monitoring
14 in all waterways in the state, and preventing other water sources from exposure to HABs.
15
16 Section 3: This act will require Kentucky’s colleges and universities to create a service learning
17 component for students and provide training to citizen volunteers in data collection of water samples and
18 identification of waterways at highest risk from nutrient pollution sources and HABs. The Kentucky
19 Division of Water HAB Prevention Team is responsible for oversight of this component and will
20 incorporate collected data. The Cooperative Extension Service, Future Farmers of America (FFA), 4-H, and
21 community groups shall be the target audience for recruitment of citizen volunteers. Findings shall be
22 reported to local communities.
23
24 Section 4: The KY Division of Water will be the official aggregator of collected data, and will coordinate
25 and analyze data in collaboration with the KY Department of Fish and Wildlife, the KY Department of
26 Agriculture, the KY Department of Public Health, and Kentucky colleges and universities. The Kentucky
27 Division of Water will issue an Annual Report on nutrient pollution (Nitrogen and Phosphorus), Harmful
28 Algal Blooms (HABs), health risks, and nutrient management strategy in Kentucky.
29
30 Section 5: This bill will go into effect on May 1, 2017.