

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Red CW 2						
	Referred to Committee: Senate 4						
Sponsors: Kara Bruns, Carolyn Clines, Reese Givens	Action on the Bill						
School: Assumption HS							
City: Louisville							
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">House</td> <td style="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 relating to abolishing the use of solitary confinement on individuals under the age of 18 in all
2 prisons and correctional facilities in Kentucky.
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4 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**
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6 Section 1: A study by the American Civil Liberties Union in 2012 found that among suicides in juvenile
7 facilities, 50 percent of the victims were in isolation at the time they took their own lives, and 62
8 percent had a history of solitary confinement. 50 percent of all successful suicides in US prisons, in
9 juveniles and adults, occur in solitary cells, but isolated prisoners make up only about 3 percent of the
10 entire prison population.

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12 Section 2: Separation from other people for an extended period of time can have extreme results on
13 the psychological well-being of an adult. This makes its impact on a child, whose brain is still in its
14 critical stage of growth, devastating. Research has shown that the human brain doesn't stop maturing
15 until the mid-twenties; but the brain never stops changing. Some specific neurological effects include:
16 depression, hallucinations, panic attacks, cognitive deficits, obsessive thinking, paranoia, anxiety, and
17 anger. The United Nations expert on torture stated that the practice be entirely prohibited, saying that
18 it qualified as "cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment."
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20 Section 3: Kentucky remains one of only 10 states that still condone the use of solitary confinement
21 for juveniles. Although, as of 2016, there is a 5 day limit on the duration of isolation, this can still
22 potentially add up to between 110 and 120 hours of solitude. Professionals have accounted to the
23 fact that even a few days of solitary confinement can lead to psychological damage.
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25 Section 4: This motion will include the release of all juveniles held in solitary confinement at that time.

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27 Section 5: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2019.