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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill

Red	CW 40	

Referred to Committee: Senate 4

Sponsors: Martha McHaney, Rebekka Walker, Mikayla Burgess, Chloe Moore	Action on the Bill	
School: McCracken Co. HS	House	Senate

☐ Passed	Passed
☐ Defeated	Defeated

City: Paducah

 AN ACT relating to implementing automatic voter registration in Kentucky

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

Section 1: The goal of our bill is to ultimately make it easier for young/unregistered voters of Kentucky to become legally registered to vote. The Automatic Voter Registration Act would mainly affect 17 year olds when they go to obtain their full driver's license. Our hopes for this bill, is that it will offer a quicker way to register and result in increased voter turnout.

Section 2: Currently 9 states have approved and are using Automatic Voter Registration. Voter turnout increased tremendously in comparison to their previous years, and some states, such as Oregon, are setting record-breaking turnouts for elections. In recent years since the success in other states, 32 states have introduced a proposal to approve Automatic Voter Registration. In comparison, Kentucky legislation has failed to propose any act that would compare to other states. This bill would give Kentuckians the option of registering to vote when going to obtain their unrestricted licence or to anyone going to renew their license. When a teenager turns 17 in Kentucky, they are eligible to go to the DMV for their unrestricted license. They will have the option when asked to register, and if they choose to, the registration would be filed into the records at their DMV until they turn 18. Once they turn 18, the person will be transferred over to the Secretary of State and will be automatically registered in the system to vote. If one is not eligible for a driver's license at the age of 17, this bill does not apply, for it is a part of the process for receiving their license. However, they can still register to vote when they turn 18 through other established registering processes.

Section 3: Due to this bill being optional, there will be no punishments for not taking the opportunity to register to vote when receiving a license or getting a license renewed. This bill does not change or eliminate any other ways of registering to vote, it is just one more way to do so. The only fee would be the fee to receive their unrestricted license or renewed license, which varies on the county you live in.

Section 4: This bill will go into effect immediately following passage.