the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 1	
		Referred to	Committee: se 1
Sponsors: Jakhi Mitchell, Valerie Heil, Jaelle Hall, Ashlyn Poole		Action o	n the Bill
School: Butler Tradition	nal HS	House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Childcare For Low Income Households Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: The cost of childcare can be overwhelming, particularly for single parents trying to manage all expenses on just one income. Paying for a single week of childcare can be prohibitively expensive, and the financial strain is only made worse by the requirement to pay even when the child cannot attend due to illness or other reasons. This inflexibility in childcare fees adds an extra layer of difficulty for parents already juggling tight budgets.

Section 2: Parents are often faced with difficult choices: go to work or stay home to care for their child, or spend their limited income on childcare at the expense of essentials like housing and food. This bill will expand daycare options within public schools and could help ease this burden by providing more accessible and affordable childcare. By allocating funding from the public school budget, these programs could give parents the flexibility to work and support their families without sacrificing basic needs. Investing in school-based childcare would not only support children's early development but also promote economic stability within the community.

Section 3: – Expanding daycare options within public schools can provide numerous benefits for families, communities, and educators. By focusing on children ten and under, these programs can offer high-quality, affordable childcare that prepares young children for school success while reducing financial strain on parents. Locating childcare on school campuses makes pick-up and drop-off more convenient, saving parents commuting time and lowering stress. Flexible hours can also accommodate parents with non-traditional work schedules, providing much-needed support for working families. – To ensure affordability, childcare costs could be subsidized based on income, making the programs accessible to low-income families while promoting equity. School-based childcare programs could also offer structured, educational activities designed to support early development, bilingual programs for diverse communities, and health and wellness initiatives to foster physical and mental well-being. – These programs could create more job opportunities for college graduates pursuing careers in education and childcare, while partnerships with local businesses could provide additional resources and sponsorships.

Section 4: This bill will be enacted into law July 1, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 2	
			Committee:
Sponsors : Jorge Blas Bautista, Didie Drogba, Matthew Mattingly, Alan Castaneda Gonzalez		Action o	n the Bill
School: Butler Traditio	nal HS	House	Senate
City: Louisville		☐ ☐ Passed ☐ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Forming More Diverse and Representative Juries Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Section 1: This bill seeks to ensure the formation of more diverse and representative juries in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to better reflect the demographics of the community. Doing this would aim to promote fairness in the judicial process and to address historical underrepresentation of minority groups in jury selection.

Section 2: KRS 29A.040 is amended to include a new subsection (4) as follows: (4) The jury pool for each trial shall be selected in a manner that reflects the racial, ethnic, and gender demographics of the county where the trial is held. Current demographic data from the United States Census Bureau or an equivalent source shall inform the composition of the pool. Procedures shall be instituted to ensure no significant under-representation of any demographic group based on the county's population.

Section 3: KRS 29A.060 is amended to revise subsection (2) and add a new subsection (3) as follows: (2) Exemptions from jury duty shall be granted solely for reasons constituting significant hardship, as determined by the presiding judge. Employment status, income level, and primary care-giving responsibilities shall not constitute automatic grounds for exemption. (3) The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide reasonable accommodations, including childcare services and transportation assistance, to facilitate participation by all eligible jurors.

Section 4: A new section of KRS Chapter 29A is created to read as follows: The Administrative Office of the Courts shall annually collect and analyze demographic data on individuals selected for jury duty in each county, including, where available, data on race, ethnicity, and gender. The office shall prepare an annual report on or before December 1 each year, detailing the representativeness of jury pools and the effectiveness of selection procedures. This report shall be submitted to the General Assembly.

Section 5: The funding for this bill will come from the state's general fund and will be allocated for: enhanced data collection and analysis to monitor jury composition, increased juror compensation to encourage broader participation, and the outreach and education efforts to ensure that jury duty is accessible.

Section 6: In conclusion, this bill shall be enacted on July 1, 2025 to allow time for the necessary preparations, including community outreach, training for court staff and implementation of new selection processes.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 3	
		Referred to Sena	Committee: te 2
Sponsors : Shiloh Powell, Miriam Johnson, Vanesa Martinez, Juan Hernandez Trejo		Action o	n the Bill
School: Butler Tradition	al HS	House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Requiring American Sign Language to be Offered as a Course in Schools

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

Section 1: This bill plans to recognize American Sign Language (ASL) as an official language offered at schools all across the Commonwealth of Kentucky, from elementary to high schools, providing students the option to study it as a foreign language.

Section 2: The bill would be a part of the KRS Chapter 158, it covers primary and secondary education in the commonwealth of Kentucky. It addresses curriculum standards and requirements. This bill aims to enhance inclusion and accessibility by making ASL easier to learn. By fostering communication between hearing and non-hearing students, it will create a more inclusive environment for the Deaf and hard of hearing community. Additionally, the bill will raise cultural awareness, fostering empathy and sensitivity towards different communities and their challenges. Introducing ASL into the school curriculum will provide new career opportunities in interpreting, teaching, and healthcare, benefiting students in various fields where communication is essential. Kentucky's adoption of this progressive policy will position the state as a leader and a positive example for other states to follow.

Section 3: The funding for this bill would come from grants and partnerships of organizations that support the education for the deaf community. As the bill grows it will receive funding from SEEK (Support Education Excellence in Kentucky). This bill would also establish partnerships with local and national Deaf advocacy groups such as National Association of the Deaf (NAD). The amount that this would cost would start off at around \$3,000,000, the breakdown would be around \$2,000,000 for teacher training + \$500,000 for the Curriculum development + \$300,000 for class supplies and + \$200,000 for pilot programs.

Section 4:According to whatsthesign.com, there are many different reasons on why ASL should be included in schools. Reasons include inclusivity, future career advancements, and appreciation and understanding for cultural differences. Along with articles such as accessforce.org talks about the benefits for the teachers and the students. The environment and community grows along with the cognitive abilities.

Section 5: In conclusion, our bill will be an act that will be enforced to allow ASL to be offered as a course in schools. This bill will be enacted on July 1st 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 4	
		Referred to Hous	Committee: se 2
Sponsors: Emma Robinson, Addison Janes, Gaby Johnson, Skyler Brandenburg		Action o	n the Bill
School: Elizabethtown	HS	House	Senate
City: Elizabethtown		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To establishing a statewide 911–text service in each county in Kentucky.

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

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 39 IS TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) All counties in Kentucky shall establish a 911-text service. This refers to the respondee's ability to send text messages to the local emergency communication during any given emergency.

Section 2: (1) The 911-text service shall operate within the local emergency communication center. (2) Each county shall be responsible for the inclusion of the text service into their perspective budgets. (3) Counties may apply for federal and state grants to fund the text service.

Section 3: Whereas the Commonwealth bears the responsibility of ensuring access to emergency services for all of its citizens, this service should only be used when making a voice call to 911 is not possible, be it that the respondee is nonverbal, speech impaired, hard of hearing, deaf, or if the respondee cannot safely make a call due to a threatening situation of which a voice call could increase said threat.

Section 4: Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.



the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 5	
		Referred to Sen a	Committee: te 2
Sponsors: Atlas Aman	, Kaylynn White, Ollie Richardson,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Elizabethtown	HS	House	Senate
C'. Fl. L. L.		Passed	□ Passed
City: Elizabethtown		Defeated	Defeated

An Act Relating To reinstituting high-quality educators and making an appropriation therefor **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 160 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) Individual school districts shall evaluate teachers yearly. (2) The evaluations shall consider the following performance results: annual district observations, pass rates, standardized test scores, and significant student feedback of a positive nature. (3) Should the teacher's performance be deemed exceptional quality, or the student feedback consist of significant positive responses, or the teacher's pass rate exceeds the state average, or the student's standardized test scores exceed the state average, or should the student's AP or IB test exceed the state average, then the teacher shall receive a proportional pay increase of 2.5%. (4) No teacher may receive a compounded performance-based salary increase. (5) Teachers are still eligible to receive additional bonuses or salary increases not established by this law.

Section 2: The funds necessary for this law shall be appropriated from the Kentucky lottery surplus.

Section 3: Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed



the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 6	
			Committee: se 1
Sponsors: Daisy Barre	ett,,,	Action c	n the Bill
School: Frankfort HS		House	Senate
City: Frankfort		☐ Passed ☐ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act relating to the improvement of sexual education within schools. Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: KRS 158.1415 is amended to read as follows: (1) All local school districts shall approve and implement a medically accurate, age-appropriate sexual education curriculum for grades six(6) through twelve(12). The curriculum shall be developed and decided by an advisory committee appointed by each local school district's superintendent, composed of lay persons and professional resource personnel. Participants may include representatives for: (a)School staff; (b)Parents; (c)Students; (d)Community organizations; (e)Health or mental health professionals; and (f)Appropriate government agencies.

(2)As used in this section: (a)"Age-appropriate" means subjects suitable for children of a particular developmental level based on the cognitive, emotional, and social capacity of students at that age level; (b)"Sex education" is defined as education that addresses the physical, mental, emotional, and social dimensions of sexual health; and (c)"Medically accurate" means a program of instruction that contains information that: 1.Has been supported by the weight of research conducted in accepted scientific methods and is published in peer-reviewed journals; 2.Leading professional health or medical organizations, government agencies, and scientific advisory groups with expertise in the field recognized as accurate, objective, and complete.

(3)The district plan shall require that students receive: (a)The equivalent of one(1) week of instruction in each year of grades six(6) and seven(7); (b)The equivalent of three(3) weeks of instruction in grade eight(8); and (c)One(1) semester of instruction in any of the secondary grades, nine(9) through twelve(12).

(4)Each school shall obtain a legal guardian's written consent before their child is present in lessons regardingsexual education.

(5)Any student whose legal guardian submits a signed statement listing the areas of the local board's chosen curriculum that conflict with their moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from the lessons regarding the listed areas of conflict.

(6)Comprehensive sexual education shall be provided by: (a)A certified teacher; or (b)A licensed medical professional.

(7)Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.

(8)This Act takes effect July 1, 2026 or at the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 7	
		Referred to Sena	Committee: te 1
Sponsors: Josie Engla	nd, Jon Harpole, Sara Matthews, David West	Action o	n the Bill
School: Graves Co. HS		House	Senate
Citv: Mavfield		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Requiring Hunters Under the Age of 18 to be Accompanied by a Licensed Adult.

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

 Section 1: KRS 150.175.8 is amended to read as follows, Amend KRS 150.175.8) 'A youth statewide hunting license, which may be issued to a person before he or she has reached his or her sixteenth birthday, and which authorizes the holder to exercise all the privileges authorized by a statewide hunting license.' To read, 'To be eligible to have all the privileges authorized by a statewide hunting license, youth under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult at least 21 years of age while hunting, both parties must have a valid hunting license.'



the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 8	
			Committee: se 2
Sponsors: Jocelyn Mo	nson, josie crail, Rachel Beane, Anna Kahmann	Action o	n the Bill
School: Holy Cross HS	– Covington	House	Senate
City: Covington		Passed Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To public holidays in the Commonwealth and declaring an Emergency Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Amend KRS 2.110 to remove Robert E. Lee Day, Confederate Memorial Day, and Jefferson Davis Day from the list of public holidays.

Section 2: Amend KRS 2.110 to add Kentucky Oaks Day and Kentucky Derby Day to the list of public holidays.

Section 3: KRS 2.110 is amended to read as follows: (1) The first day of January (New Year's Day), the third Monday of January (Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.), the thirtieth day of January (Franklin D. Roosevelt Day), the twelfth day of February (Lincoln's Birthday), the third Monday in February (Washington's Birthday), the first Friday in May (Kentucky Oaks Day), the first Saturday in May (Kentucky Derby Day), the last Monday in May (Memorial Day), the fourth day of July (Independence Day), the first Monday in September (Labor Day), the second Monday in October (Columbus Day), the eleventh day of November (Veterans Day), the twenty-fifth day of December (Christmas Day) of each year, and all days appointed by the President of the United States or by the Governor as days of thanksgiving, are holidays, on which all the public offices of this Commonwealth may be closed. (2) No person shall be compelled to labor on the first Monday in September (Labor Day) by any person.

Section 4: Whereas it is imperative to modernize Kentucky's public holidays immediately, this ACT takes effect upon its passage and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming law.



the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 9	
			Committee:
Sponsors: Harper Saalfeld, Abby Reed, Joseph Coutinho,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Holy Cross HS – Covington		House	Senate
City: Covington		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To the regulation of single-use plastic bags Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 224.50 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1)"Single use plastic bag"; is defined as a thin film bag made of plastic derived from petroleum that is not biodegradable and is less than two and one-half (2.5) mls in thickness; (2)No retailer in the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall provide or distribute single-use plastic bags to customers at point of sale for the purpose of carrying goods. (3)Retailers shall offer reusable bags for sale or provide them to customers at no cost, as determined by the retailer's business model. (4) Retailers may provide compostable plastic bags to customers, but only if the bags meet ASTM standards for compostability. (5) Exceptions: This prohibition does not apply to the following types of bags: - Bags used for the packaging of loose or bulk food items (e.g., produce bags or bakery bags). - Bags used to contain items such as meat, seafood, or other perishable goods where the packaging is necessary for sanitary reasons. – Bags used for dry cleaning or for the transport of clothing, laundry, or similar items. - Bags used by a customer to transport their goods away from the point of sale if the customer has brought their own reusable bags. (6) Retailers must take reasonable steps to inform customers about the ban on single-use plastic bags. This may include posting signage, providing information at the checkout counter, or through other forms of communication. (7)Retailers shall provide reusable bags or offer them to customers at a reasonable cost. (8)Retailers must also provide a clear plan to minimize waste from single-use bags and encourage the use of reusable bags, including offering discounts or incentives for customers who bring their own bags.

Section 2. a. The Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) shall have the authority to enforce this statute and its provisions. b. Any retailer found in violation of this section may be subject to the following penalties: – A fine of \$250 for the first violation. – A fine of \$500 for the second violation within a 12-month period. – A fine of \$1,000 for each subsequent violation within the same 12-month period. c. The DEP may issue a written warning for the first violation before imposing fines.

Section 3. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

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the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 10	
		Referred to	Committee: se 1
Sponsors: Shiza Rana,	Aysha Aljijakli, Leena Khader,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Kentucky Cour	ntry Day	House	Senate
		□ Passed	🗆 Passed
City: Louisville		Defeated	🗆 Defeated

An Act Relating To Mental Health Counseling for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals

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

Section 1: Amends KRS 197.045 to read as follows: insert (1)(a) 4. Successfully complete 30 hours of Mental Health counseling (behavioral, group, private or otherwise) within 6 months of release, and exhibit good mental health and behavior 6 months after the 30 hours are completed. Failure to complete 30 hours within 6 months could result in extended probation.

Section 2: Notes that the American Psychological Association reports that '64 percent of jail inmates, 54 percent of state prisoners, and 45 percent of federal prisoners' have reported mental health concerns.

Section 3: Recognizes the stresses of society (ex: job search, paying rent, social anxiety) exacerbate poor mental health.

Section 4: Will use 12 million dollars of Kentucky's General Fund surplus (1.4 billion) to provide private mental health and group therapy counselors.





the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 11	
			Committee:
Sponsors: Shaan Bain	s, Adam Dockstader, Aya Alnabhan, Naya Singal	Action o	n the Bill
School: Kentucky Cou	ntry Day	House	Senate
City: Louisville		☐ ☐ Passed ☐ ☐ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To The Securing of Government Records Using Blockchain Technology Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

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Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF THE KRS 61 IS CREATED TO BE READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) Government records shall be stored and secured using blockchain technology to improve transparency, accessibility, and data protection. (a) Government records include, but are not limited to, birth certificates, marriage licenses, property records, criminal records, business licenses, tax records, and any other document classified as a public or private government record. (b) The Kentucky Office of Technology, in coordination with the Kentucky State Data Center, shall develop and implement a blockchain-based platform to secure all government records. (c) Each government record shall be timestamped and added to the blockchain upon creation. Any amendments or updates to records will be recorded as individual transactions within the blockchain, ensuring a complete and verifiable history. (d) To protect citizen privacy, access to personal records shall be encrypted and restricted to the record holder and authorized government personnel. Any unauthorized access attempt shall be flagged and reported to the Kentucky State Police Cybercrime Unit. (2) Citizens shall have access to their personal records via a secure online portal, established by the Kentucky State Data Center. (a) Access shall require verification through the citizen's Social Security Number (SSN) and government-issued identification, such as a driver's license or state ID. (b) The portal shall provide options for citizens to view, download, and request updates or corrections to their records, subject to verification and approval by the relevant agency. (3) Registration and availability of records shall be managed through the County Clerk's Office and the Kentucky State Data Center. (a) The Kentucky State Data Center shall develop an intuitive portal interface allowing users to locate documents using search parameters, including document type and date of issue. (b) Payment for any fees associated with record access or updates shall be processed through the online portal or by mail. (4) Funding and Resource Allocation for this blockchain implementation shall be sourced from the state's technology budget and available federal grants for cybersecurity and digital infrastructure.

Section 2: This Act takes effect 180 days after the close of the legislative session to allow time for secure development and implementation.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 12	
		Referred to	Committee: se 1
Sponsors: Ryder Tygre	et, Eva House, Bailey Shoemaker, Annabelle Morkwed	Action o	n the Bill
School: Meade Co. HS		House	Senate
Citv: Brandenburg		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Financial Medical Treatment Coverage for STI-positive Sexual Assault Victims through Sexual Assault Examination.

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

Section 1: KRS 216B.400 is amended to read as follows: (6) Each victim shall be informed of available crisis intervention or other mental health services provided by regional rape crisis centers providing services [Add: and full financial medical treatment coverage for STIs] to victims of sexual assault.

Section 2: All victims, male or female, of sexual assault that contact positive STIs and need medical treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) will be covered under the amendment. In 2023, Kentucky reported 4,136 counts of sex-related offenses. (rape, sodomy, sexual assault with an object, and fondling) These are the only offenses that have been reported and reviewed. As of the reported cases, for 204 patients, 43% tested positive for a sexually transmitted infection within 72 hours of the initial examination. The most common STIs contracted after sexual assault are Chlamydia, and Gonorrhea (2021).

Section 3: The Department of Community-Based Services will enforce this bill under the Cabinet of Health and Family Services to ensure full financial medical treatment coverage for STIs. As of 2008, The Department of Community-Based Services took responsibility for the Sexual Assault Examinations reports (SAE), and will take further responsibility for the financial medical treatment coverage of sexually transmitted infections from sexual assault.

Section 4: Under the Department of Community Based Services and the Kentucky Claims Commission ambulance fees, emergency contraception, and diagnostic imaging/radiology are NOT requirements for coverage of services associated with sexual assault medical forensic exams, meaning all would need to be paid out of pocket if insurance does not cover (2021). In 2023, STI medical treatment will cost up to \$250. It's estimated to cost \$445,000 yearly in Kentucky for STI medical treatment, from the Department for Community–Based Services general fund of \$544,003,700.

Section 5: This bill shall go into full effect on April 1, 2025.

KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill Sponsors: Joshua Mayberry, Aidyn Morgan, Julia Crase, Kota Sweazy School: Meade Co. HS Referred to Committee: Senate 2 Action on the Bill House Senate	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 13	
School: Meade Co. HS House Senate		KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY		
SCHOOL: Meade Co. HS	Sponsors: Joshua Mayberry, Aidyn Morgan, Julia Crase, Kota Sweazy		Action o	n the Bill
□ Passad □ Passad	School: Meade Co. HS		House	Senate
	City: Brandenburg		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Paid Maternity Leave For Public School Teachers Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Schools should not mandate that teachers exhaust their personal sick days to access paid maternity leave. Instead, educators should be provided with paid maternity leave, 50% of their salary for 8 weeks. This would create a more equitable approach to receiving maternity leave. This policy would ensure that teachers receive adequate support during their leave; overall, promoting a healthier and more productive working environment.

Section 2: School districts must require budget adjustments to cover both the leave and substitute expenses. Eligible full-time educators must submit a formal request with medical documentation. The Kentucky Department of Education will conduct required training sessions for administrators to ensure smooth implementation. School districts will be required to maintain accurate records, comply with KDE guidelines, and undergo regular audits. Annual reports detailing leave requests, fund disbursements, and policy impact must be submitted to the KDE for review and potential adjustments.

Section 3: To ensure that educators receive the proposed paid maternity leave, the enforcement will be overseen by the Kentucky Department of Education. The KDE will collaborate with school districts to implement the Maternity Leave Policy where all school districts will be required to adopt a maternity leave policy that provides 50% of the teacher's salary for a duration of eight weeks. The KDE will establish a monitoring system to ensure compliance with the maternity leave policy. This will include regular audits and reviews of school district records to verify the funds are being appropriately used and that eligible educators are receiving their entitled benefits.

Section 4: Necessary funds for this initiative will be allocated from the schools districts budget. Since the budget already includes the teachers' salaries, budgeting would not extremely change by incorporating maternity leave into it. The remaining 50% of the educator's salary, which is not covered during the maternity leave, will be reserved for hiring substitute teachers and covering other school–related expenses.

Section 5: This law will go into effect and districts will work to implement this at the start of the new fiscal year.

NO °	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 14	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to	Committee: se 1
Sponsors: Olivia Walton, Virginia Griffith, Reagan Rye, Maryam Ali		Action o	n the Bill
School: Oldham Co. HS		House	Senate
City: La Grange		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Human Trafficking Prevention Education Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 156.095 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (a) The Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall post on its web page evidence-based human trafficking prevention awareness information, to include recognizing the warning signs of a human trafficking crisis. (b) Every public school and public charter school shall provide two (2) evidence-based human trafficking prevention awareness lessons each school year, the first by November 15 and the second by March 15, to all students in grades six (6) through twelve (12). The information may be obtained from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or from a commercially developed human trafficking prevention training program. (c) Each school year, a minimum of one (1) hour of Human Trafficking prevention training, including risk factors, warning signs, protective factors, response procedures, shall be required for all school district employees. The training shall be provided either in person, by live streaming, or via a video recording and may be included in the four (4) days of professional development under KRS 158.070.

SECTION 2. The cost would be nothing as resources would be provided through the United States Department of State and this act will go into effect August 2025.

SECTION 3. Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.

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the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to Hou s	Committee: se 2
Sponsors: Vanessa Garcia, Sarah Hicks, Bentley Harrison,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Paul G. Blazer HS		House	Senate
City: Ashland		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Personal Injury Protection Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: KRS 304.39-020 is amended to read as follows: The Personal Injury Protection (PIP) coverage amount shall be increased from the current \$10,000 to \$40,000.

Section 2: This Act shall go into effect on June 1, 2025.

Section 3: Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.

° °	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 16	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to Sena	Committee: te 1
Sponsors: Riley Harmo	n, Eden Pauley, Karana Brothers, Abby Lynch	Action o	n the Bill
School: Paul G. Blazer H	dS	House	Senate
City: Ashland		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To the Kentucky Proud Agriculture Program Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: School districts may partner with the Kentucky Proud Agriculture Program to source locally grown food for school meals. Districts that source at least 25% of their food from Kentucky Proud members are eligible to apply for the Kentucky Proud Seal for Schools, recognizing their support for local agriculture and student nutrition.

Section 2: To qualify for the Kentucky Proud Seal, school districts must source at least 25% of food from Kentucky Proud members, promote local food sourcing in educational materials and events, and report local food purchases to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) annually.

Section 3: The KDA will establish an application process for schools, which includes verifying local food purchases, submitting a plan to meet the 25% sourcing requirement, and providing an annual report on sourcing progress and partnerships with Kentucky farmers.

Section 4: Schools awarded the Kentucky Proud Seal may receive grants or subsidies to support local food sourcing, public recognition on the Kentucky Proud website and materials, and training and resources to strengthen local food sourcing practices.

Section 5: Schools with the Kentucky Proud Seal must submit an annual report to the KDA, detailing the percentage of Kentucky Proud food served, the number of Kentucky Proud partners involved, and student participation in meals with local food.

Section 6: This act will take effect on July 1, 2025.

Section 7: Any statutes conflicting with this act are hereby amended or repealed.

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 17	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to Sen a	Committee: te 1
Sponsors: Anthony COOLEY-JUDD, Willow Rains, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Pleasure Ridge Park HS		House	Senate
		🗆 Passed	🗆 Passed
City: Louisville		Defeated	🗆 Defeated

An Act Relating To the Promotion of Voter Registration Awareness in Kentucky High Schools.

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

Section 1: Create a new provision to KRS 158.141 to expand upon the civic curriculum enacted by the youth assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The goal is to increase youth engagement in the democratic process by mandating that all public high schools in Kentucky organize non-partisan voter registration. These drives would happen twice a year for students who are eligible or will be eligible to vote in the primary and general election.

Section 2: Definitions 1.Vote Registration Drive: A school–organized event where eligible students can register to vote and learn about the voting process. 2. Non–Partisan Civic Education: Education on voting and civic engagement without advocacy for any specific political party or candidate.

Section 3: Implementation 1. Kentucky public high schools must conduct two voter registration drives per academic year, ideally during Constitution week in September and second event the spring before the Kentucky primary election. 2. Schools will provide information on how to register online, by mail, or in person, with a focus on Kentucky's voter registration requirements. This information will be received from their schools counselors. 3. The Kentucky Department of Education, in collaboration with the Secretary of State's office and the Kentucky Civic Engagement Commission (KCEC), will oversee and support the implementation of these events. Each high school will appoint a history teacher or counselor to conduct these drives.

Section 4: Funding for materials and resources needed for voter registration drives will be provided by the county clerk's office in each county, helping to cover the cost of print materials, training, and other necessary expenses. Schools are also encouraged to partner with civic organizations and non-partisan groups for additional support.

Section 5: Comparable State Legislation several states, including California, and Florida, have similar laws promoting high school voter registration drives, with proven success in increasing youth voter engagement and awareness.

Section 6: This bill will go into effect on October 20, 2025.

$\blacksquare \blacksquare^\circ$	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 18	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill		Committee: se 1
Sponsors: Gavin VanHook, Jazmyn Whitehead, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Pulaski Co. HS		House	Senate
		🗆 Passed	🗆 Passed
City: Somerset		Defeated	$___$ \Box Defeated

An Act Relating To Senior Citizens and the Driver's License Road Test **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

SECTION 1: KRS CHAPTER 186.4101 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) Senior citizens age 70 and older will be required to retake the Kentucky State Road Test

 SECTION 2: Seniors renewing their Kentucky Driver's license on or after their 70th birthday will be required to retake the driving portion of the Kentucky Driver License Exam

SECTION 3: Senior drivers shall make an appointment with their Kentucky Driver Licensing Regional Office. At their appointment, Seniors will undertake the required Vision Test as well as the driving component of the Licensing Test. Upon a failure of the road test, the individual must wait at least one week before scheduling another attempt. Senior individuals will have three attempts to pass the road test. Failure after three attempts will result in a wait of six months before another attempt.

SECTION 4: Should a senior individual not pass the licensing road test resulting in the forfeiture of their operator license and are pulled over by a police authority operating a motor vehicle on public roads, that individual shall face the charge and penalties of Driving without a Valid License as outlined in KRS 186.620.



· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 19	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill		Committee:
Sponsors: Joshua Farley, Ryan Sweeney, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Scott HS		House	Senate
		🗆 Passed	🗆 Passed
City: Taylor Mill		Defeated	Defeated

An Act Relating To Therapy in Schools Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Amend KRS 158.4416 to require all public Kentucky high schools to create a new allocation for a minimum of 1 licensed therapist.

Section 2: Amend KRS 158.4416 (2). To read as follows, The General Assembly requires all public schools to adopt a trauma-informed approach to education in order to better recognize, understand, and address the learning needs of students impacted by trauma and to foster a learning environment where all students, including those who have been traumatized, can be safe, successful, and have the resources to get help when needed.

Section 3: KRS 158.4416 (3)(b). Amending school counselors to be defined as strictly dealing with administrative regulations and school-based issues. They will not be involved with students' mental health.

Section 4: These newly employed therapists would take over the previous duties of the school counselors that involved mental health.

Section 5: This bill will be funded by a 1% tax increase on nicotine products.



°	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 20	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to Hou s	Committee: se 2
Sponsors: Nora Wallingford, Elle Jones, Molly James, Zoe Gatewood		Action o	n the Bill
School: South Oldham	⊣S	House	Senate
City: Crestwood		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Student Loan Forgiveness for Teachers Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 286 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS; all students who attend a public, state university in Kentucky and study to earn a bachelors in education are entitled to have a portion of their student debt relieved by the state after working in state, for a public school, for at least 5 years, directly after graduation. Undergraduates have 6 months after graduating to be hired at a public school.

Section 2: This relief only applies to loans used to obtain a degree no higher than a bachelors. Undergraduates still must make the minimum payments on their student loans from the time they graduate until the 5 years of work are fulfilled; any and all leftover debt after the 5 years will be paid off by the state.

Section 3: In order to fund this program, taxes will be raised for people who make \$447,000 yearly or more. Individuals who fall into this category will have their income tax raised from 4% to 4.01%.

Section 4: To be enacted July 1, 2026.

Section 5: Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.

°	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 21	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to Sena	Committee: te 2
Sponsors: Presley Coffman, Abby Keeling, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: South Oldham HS		House	Senate
City: Crestwood		☐ Passed ☐ ☐ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To THE STATUS OF COAL MINING PERMITS IN RELATION TO SITE ACTIVITY

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

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 350.060 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) A permit shall terminate if the permittee fails to prove that coal mining operations are in 'active status' at permitted mining site (2) 'Active status' is defined as: (a.) Coal extraction has taken place under the permittee in the past year (3) The permittee must submit annual reports to the cabinet documenting extraction and production of the given mining site as proof of activity (4) In the event of permit termination, the permittee shall have 90 days to repeal termination or provide evidence of resumed activity at the given site to the cabinet (5) If permit termination takes place, reclamation efforts will commence immediately (see KRS 350.060, section 11)

Section 2: Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.



°	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 22	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to Hou s	Committee: se 1
Sponsors: Jacob Terry,	Logan McAllister, Teigan Clover, George Ackert	Action o	n the Bill
School: South Oldham	HS	House	Senate
City: Crestwood		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating to Disaster Warning Systems in Rural Areas of Kentucky **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 39A IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) A new section is created to provide for the ongoing appropriation and utilization of funds for severe weather warning systems throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky. (2) Funding shall go towards the implementation of systems such as IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert and Warning System), NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) weather radio systems, severe weather sirens, and any other upgrades towards existing systems that local governments deem fit.

Section 2: A variety of weather systems will be implemented in rural areas deemed 'without access,' primarily in Eastern Kentucky. IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert and Warning System) and NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) weather radio systems which rely on monitoring, forecasting, and other various channels. Sirens designated for flooding will be required to protect all residents of rural areas who may lose access to wireless communications, electrically powered radios, and or television.

Section 3: To ensure full effectiveness sirens will be installed one and a half to two miles away from each other. These measurements may vary in areas where the environment may hinder the effectiveness of the sirens such as mountainous and or wooded areas.

Section 4: Annual reporting is required to ensure transparency and accountability. Each local government must submit detailed reports on the status, maintenance, and effectiveness of the funded systems. Failure to submit these reports on time, or submission of false or misleading information, may result in fines of up to \$2,000 per instance. The state emergency management agencies will monitor these compliance requirements, and repeated non-compliance may lead to additional penalties or further restrictions on future funding.

Section 5: There is appropriated to the Commonwealth of Kentucky \$10,000,000 from the Inflation Reduction Act (whose budget in the fiscal year 2024 exceeded \$1,650,000,000) in the fiscal year 2025 to be used towards implementing severe weather systems.

Section 6: Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.

°	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION	CW 23	
the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill		Committee: te 2
Sponsors: Gracie Brow	n, Nathan Sivert, Alastor Head Moreno,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Spencer Co. HS		House	Senate
City: Taylorsville		· □ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Elimination of Sales Tax on All Feminine Hygiene Products **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

Section 1: A NEW KRS STATUTE IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) All feminine hygiene products sold in Kentucky will be exempt from sales or luxury taxes.

Section 2: Penalties will be imposed on businesses that do not comply: (1) Issued a warning and will be given 6–12 weeks to comply, (2) After time allotted, businesses will be fined in the amount of taxes paid by customers (2)(a) Money collected from fines will be handled by the Cabinet of Public Safety (2)(b) Money that is collected from fines will be recycled into funds that go to women's shelters across the Commonwealth (3) Businesses will be subject to a fine doubled the amount previously cited and a potential revoking of their business license.

Section 3: Any statute contrary to this Act will be amended and repealed

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the	KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Referred to Sen a	Committee: te 2
Sponsors: Allie Decima, Evan Parhad, Claire Schild,		Action o	n the Bill
School: St. Henry District HS		House	Senate
City: Erlanger		☐ Passed ☐ ☐ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To The Legal Liability of Firearm Holds Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 237 IS TO BE CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) The instituting of a 'Firearm hold agreement,' which means private transaction between a federal firearms licensee and an individual firearm owner where the licensee takes physical possession of the owner's lawfully possessed firearm at the owner's request to hold for an agreed upon period of time. (2) The firearm would be returned to the owner according to the terms of the transaction. (3) Immunity from civil liability shall not apply to any action arising from a firearm hold agreement if such action was the result of otherwise unlawful conduct on the part of the licensee holding the firearm.

Section 2. KRS 237.104 is amended to read as follows: Amend (2) to read as follows, 'No person, unit of government, or governmental organization shall, during a period of disaster or emergency as specified in KRS Chapter 39A or at any other time, take, seize, confiscate, or impound a firearm, firearm part, ammunition, ammunition component, or any deadly weapon or dangerous instrument from any person – unless the owner responsibly hands over their firearm as part of a 'Firearm Hold Agreement.'

Section 3. Any statute contrary to this Act should be amended or repealed.

Section 4. This Act takes effect January 1, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 26	
		Referred to Committee: Senate 1	
Sponsors: Mabry Alexander, Aubrey Crawford, ,		Action on the Bill	
School: Trigg Co. HS		House	Senate
		□ Passed	□ Passed
City: Cadiz	Defeated	Defeated	

An Act Relating To School Safety Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: All public schools in Kentucky must be provided with panic alert systems for each room in the school. The system can provide assistance for all types of emergencies, including major medical concerns and mass shootings. It can silently notify police, staff, and any necessary authorities of an emergency, while pinpointing the exact location of which the incident is occurring, allowing for a much calmer and quicker process.

Section 2: Any statute contrary to this act should be amended or repealed.



the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 27	
			Committee: se 2
Sponsors: Vidya Vasudevan, Landon Wilkerson, Maddy Sanchez,		Action on the Bill	
School: Western Hills HS		House	Senate
City: Frankfort		· □ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Include Asian American History in the American History Curriculum

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

Section 1: KRS 158.196 is Amended to Read as Follows: Amend (2)(c) to read as follows: 'The instruction and instructional materials on the historical oppression of a particular group of people, specifically Asian Americans from 1877–present day.'

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to ensure that the entire scope of Asian American (AA) history is included within the American History curriculum in Kentucky public high schools in order to properly integrate all subgroups of Asian American ethnicities within the American Society.

Section 3: The amendment to curriculum standards and the KRS statute are suggested to integrate the following but are not limited to: 1. 1877'1900: Early Immigration and Exclusion Contributions: Chinese Six Companies, early Indian immigrant advocacy (Punjabi Sikhs), small business development in ethnic enclaves. Hardships: Segregated areas, violence against South Asian and Chinese workers, exclusion from citizenship and property rights, Yellow Peril propaganda. Activists: Wong Kim Ark, Fong Yue Ting, Yung Wing, Joseph and Mary Tape, Takao Ozawa. 2. 1900'1950: War, Internment, and Civil Rights Beginnings Contributions: Formation of the JACL, the Ghadar Party, South Asian workers' advocacy, Japanese American WWII contributions. Hardships: Bellingham Riots, Alien Land Laws, Japanese Internment, Immigration Act of 1924, exclusion from public services. Activists: Bhagat Singh Thind, Fred Korematsu, Dalip Singh Saund, Mabel Ping-Hua Lee, Vaishno Das Bagai. 3. 1950'2000: Civil Rights Era and Identity Movements Contributions: Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, AA Movement, rise in political representation. Hardships: Vincent Chin's murder, Model Minority Myth, South Asian exclusion, Islamophobia, Vietnam War-era stereotyping. Activists: Yuri Kochiyama, Grace Lee Boggs, Larry Itliong, Patsy Mink, Philip Vera Cruz. 4. 2000'Present: Post-9/11, COVID-19, and Anti-Asian Hate Contributions: Stop AAPI Hate, increased political representation, South Asian advocacy against Islamophobia, AA history mandates. Hardships: Post-9/11 Islamophobia, COVID-19 scapegoating, Bamboo Ceiling, underreporting of hate crimes, anti-Sikh violence. Activists: Helen Zia, Arjun Singh Sethi, Pramila Jayapal.

Section 4: The required resources and funding for curriculum development will come from the KDE's existing budget.

Section 5: This amendment will go into effect on July 1, 2025.

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the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	CW 28	
			Committee: se 2
Sponsors: Ava Hegge, Breonna Walker, Dayanis Aguazul,		Action on the Bill	
School: Williamstown Sr. HS		House	Senate
City: Williamstown		· □ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An ACT relating to the use of nicotine products in schools Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

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28 29 Section 1: Currently, there are no written consequences for students who are caught in the possession of nicotine products. This has led numerous students to continue the use of nicotine products after being caught. These students need to be penalized to help reduce the amount of usage of said products in schools.

Section 2: This bill will provide written consequences for schools to emulate when a student is found with a nicotine product. In addition, it will allow schools to provide more intimate care for students who are struggling with nicotine addiction.

Section 3: The written consequences are as follows: When a student is first found with a product containing nicotine at school, they should be reported by a teacher to a School Resource Officer (S.R.O) or a Principal. These will be the individuals who will be responsible for enforcing the punishments. Once a student has been reported to these individuals, the authoritative personnel will write a formal report provided by the Kentucky Police Department. This report will include the time of the incident, the location of the occurrence, the students involved, and a verbal testimony given by the student in question. The student will then be enrolled in an online drug recovery program chosen by the school to help aid in recovery. There must be documented proof completed on the previous formal report that the student has been enrolled in the program and fully completed it. There will be weekly check-ins with the student until the program is finished. The student will then be allowed to attend regular classes freely without check-ins. However, if the student is found with a nicotine product once again at school, their parents will be given the option to enroll the student in an inperson drug recovery program or another online drug recovery program. Failure to complete either of these programs will result in a suspension of the student for a minimum of three (3) days. If the student is found a third time with a nicotine product at school, they shall be suspended from the school. They will then be enrolled in an in-person drug recovery program until the institution deems they are ready to return to school.

Section 4: This bill will go into effect at the start of the 2025–2026 school year.