the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   1	
		Referred to Hous	•
Sponsors: Emmett Dav	enport, Anne-Riley Corbin, Milly Thompson, Cyndi Case	Action o	n the Bill
School: Adair Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Columbia		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

# An Act Relating To Gradual Restoration of Parental Rights Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: When a parent or guardian is released from jail for child maltreatment, they will go through a rehabilitation process before they are given gradual custody of their child/children.

Section 2: The Department for Community-Based Services (DCBS) will enforce this law. The parent or guardian will gradually be given custody of their child, but they first must successfully meet all rehabilitation requirements set by DCBS

Section 3: The gradual granting of custody would work as follows: In cases of 1st-degree child abuse: supervised visitation will be given on the weekends for the first 6 months. After that time period, assuming all court-mandated requirements have been met, the child may return to the parent's custody. In cases of 2nd-degree child abuse: supervised visitation will be given on the weekends for the first 4 months. After that time period, assuming all court-mandated requirements have been met, the child may return to the parent's custody. In cases of 3rd-degree child abuse: supervised visitation will be given on the weekends for the first 2 months. After that time period, assuming all court-mandated requirements have been met, the child may be returned to the parent's custody.

Section 4: No additional funding will be necessary to enact this bill. All measures and resources needed are already in place. This bill simply adjusts the process for restoring custody.

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

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   2	
			Committee: te   2
Sponsors: Eric Yang, Riley Waldron, Steven Yao,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Anchorage Public ES		House	Senate
City: Anchorage		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

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

Section 1. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Kentucky School Safety Act'

Section 2. The purpose of this Act is to allocate \$50 million in additional funding to the Kentucky education system to enhance educational outcomes, ensure equitable access to resources, and provide necessary support for students, teachers, and schools across the Commonwealth.

Section 3. For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions shall apply: 'State Education Budget' refers to the annual budget of the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) that funds the operations and initiatives of public education. 'Local Education Agencies (LEAs)' refer to school districts, charter schools, and other public educational entities within Kentucky. 'Equitable Funding' refers to the distribution of funds in a manner that addresses disparities in resources among schools, particularly those serving historically underserved and economically disadvantaged communities.

Section 4. (a) Total Funding Amount: The total amount of funding allocated to the Kentucky education system through this Act is \$50 million, to be distributed School Safety and Mental Health Services (i) A total of \$50 million shall be allocated to enhance school safety and provide mental health services for students. (ii) These funds shall be used for hiring additional school counselors, school resource officers, and implementing safety measures such as security cameras, building upgrades, and emergency response training.

Section 5. (a) Equity Requirements: To ensure the equitable distribution of funds, the Kentucky Department of Education shall require that all LEAs submit annual equity plans, outlining how the funds will be used to address educational disparities, particularly for low-income and rural students.

Section 6.The government already taxes people for funding schools. Some taxes include property taxes, State taxes, and Federal taxes. Property taxes are also the biggest source of money for public schools. The Federal government also contributes 8% to funding public schools.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   3	
		Referred to <b>Hou</b> s	Committee: se   2
Sponsors: E.B. Lowman IV, , Will Pierce,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Ashland MS		House	Senate
City: Ashland		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To limiting rent increases in residential housing Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This Act aims to create a fair balance between the rights of landlords and tenants by establishing a threshold for annual rent increases on residential rental properties.

Section 2: Definitions "Landlord" – any individual, corporation, partnership, or entity that owns and rents out residential property within the state of Kentucky. "Tenant" – any individual who rents or leases residential property as their primary residence. "Residential rental property" – any housing unit that is rented to individuals for residential purposes. "Annual rent increase threshold" – the maximum allowable percentage increase in rent that a landlord may impose on tenants each year.

Section 3: Landlords may not increase the rent on any residential rental property by more than 5% or the rate of inflation, whichever is lower, within a 12-month period. The rate of inflation will be determined annually by the Kentucky Department of Housing and Urban Development (KDHUD) based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. In cases where landlords make significant improvements to the property that enhance living conditions or increase property value, landlords may apply for a rent increase adjustment through KDHUD. A significant improvement includes structural repairs, new appliances, security improvements, or other substantial changes that improve the value and habitability of the property.

Section 4: Landlords must provide tenants with 90 days' written notice prior to any rent increase. The notice must clearly state the new rent amount, the percentage increase, and any relevant justifications if applying for an adjustment beyond the annual threshold.

Section 5: Tenants may file complaints with KDHUD if they believe their rent has been increased unlawfully. Violations of this Act may result in penalties, including: Fines up to \$1,000 per violation. Mandatory rent adjustments or refunds to tenants who were unlawfully overcharged. Landlords found in violation of this Act more than three times within a 5-year period may be subject to additional penalties, including potential revocation of rental licenses in applicable areas.

Section 6: This Act does not apply to: Newly constructed rental properties for the first 15 years after completion. Short–term rentals (defined as leases shorter than 90 days). Single–family homes where the owner resides in one unit and rents out other units.

Section 7: This Act will take effect on January 1, 2025

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   4	
		Referred to Hous	
Sponsors: Grigsby Brown, Kye Harlow, Jake Hagan, Michael Shain		Action o	n the Bill
School: Bardstown MS		House	Senate
City: Bardstown		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To Require Emergency Alert Badges for Teachers Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: All school staff members must have an alert badge, which is the same size as typical ID badges already required for staff members. An alert badge is a device with a button that sends alerts to people such as the principal, the nurse, and emergency services. When an emergency badge is touched three times an alert will be sent to faculty and staff. Eight or more clicks initiate a campus emergency lockdown and notify the police and or emergency services immediately. These alerts could be life-saving in the case of violent threats or medical emergencies.

Section 2: The emergency badge must include the teacher's name and photo, the school's name and address. Emergency contact numbers and any important medical information about the teacher will not be visible on the badge but will be available for first responders in the case of an emergency. These badges will have a GPS system which will cut down times compared to phone calls.

Section 3: The Kentucky Department of Education will use a company such as Centgix or Kwema to make and give out emergency badges. Schools must give the Department of Education the information needed for the badges within three months after this bill becomes law. All teachers must receive and start wearing their badges within six months after this bill becomes law. The schools with the most threats, medical emergencies, and/or dangerous areas will receive the alert badges.

Section 4: The school districts of Kentucky will pay for the badges. If a badge needs to be replaced, the school or teacher must pay for the new set of badges. Each badge will cost around \$26.00.

Section 5: Schools that do not comply with this law will be evaluated by the Kentucky Department of Education and be mandated to use the badges. Following a second offense, schools will be required to receive routine visits by KDE to ensure they comply. Schools and/or districts can lose funding chosen by The Kentucky Department of Education.

Section 6: A committee chosen by The Kentucky Department of Education, will review the effectiveness of this law every two years.

Section 7: 'This bill will be added to Title XIII Education, Chapter 158, Section 4451, under 'School Safety and School Discipline."

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   5	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	_
Sponsors: Aili Mizutani, Olive Ganoe, Hannah Acree, Emma Crume		Action o	n the Bill
School: Bardstown MS		House	Senate
City: Bardstown		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To Require Rehabilitation Services for Violent Students **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

Section 1: "Violent student behavior" shall be defined as any physical aggression, threats of violence, or actions that cause or threaten to cause bodily harm to others within the school environment (Within the school property.) "Structured consequences" shall refer to a standardized set of disciplinary actions designed to address violent behavior. These actions could be counselor meetings, rehabilitation, and suspensions. "Rehabilitation" shall refer to programs and interventions to address the root causes of violent behavior and promote positive change.

Section 2: Some first offenses for violent behavior right now, are to be immediately extracted out of the classroom. Schools will call parents/guardians, have a one-day in-school suspension, and have a meeting with a school counselor. Second offenses are used if they keep on doing it after the first offense. This includes a three-day out-of-school suspension, a parent conference, and the development of a behavior improvement plan. These are some of the structured consequences.

Section 3: Some programs that shall be developed and implemented in all public schools are peer mediation training, conflict resolution workshops, and social-emotion learning curriculums. These programs will take place on-site. These programs will last based on the number of offenses that have happened and the severity of the offense. Each school shall designate at least one counselor specifically trained in addressing violent behavior. Schools also shall partner with local mental health professionals to provide additional support and resources for exhibiting violent behavior. This will help students understand how to fix violent behavior. Rehabilitation shall take place in a classroom, or if successful, in a whole building. It will be a tiered process to determine how long they have to stay.

Section 4: The Kentucky Department of Education shall conduct annual evaluations of the effectiveness of these measures and report findings to the state legislature. The program shall be reviewed and updated every three years based on evaluation results and current best practices. If it is successful there will be fewer and fewer violent acts recorded.

Section 5: The state shall fund most of the money for the rehabilitation program and staff training. This act complies with KRS Chapter 158 section 150.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   6	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: te   1
Sponsors: Aarav Tibrev	wal, Hadley Stansbury, ,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Beaumont MS		House	Senate
City: Lexington		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Accommodations for English Language Learners on Statewide Testing Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: (1) All English Language Learners (ELL) students will be accommodated with BED-A, ET-A, ONLS-A, RDR-A, SB-A level accommodations, depending on their progress throughout the ELL Program offered at their school. (2) The level of accommodation will be proportional to the level of ELL advancement a student has had in the program.

Section 2: English Language Learners in their first year will not take any form of state testing beyond ACCESS Testing.

Section 3: Based on English Language Proficiency for students beyond their first year of ACCESS Testing will be provided with the accommodations based on independent domain (Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing) proficiency.

Section 4: English Language Learners eligible will provide 1 or more of the 5 main accommodations areas listed below: BED-A Bilingual/English Dictionary Assessment ET-A Extended Time Assessment ONLS-A Oral Native Language Support Assessment RDR-A Reader Assessment SB-A Scribe

Section 5: The accommodation provided is based on independent domain scores in ACCESS testing. Until a student leaves the ELL program, they are eligible for at least 1 accommodation.

Section 6: If a student scores Emerging in 3 or more categories in ACCESS testing, then their Kentucky Summative Assessment score will not be counted towards the school's score.

Section 7: After 7 years, if an ELL student has not tested out of the ELL program their Kentucky Summative Assessment scores will be counted towards the school's total scores.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   7	
		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Dani Shone, Eabha Cotter, JP Hays, Livia Shone		Action o	n the Bill
School: Bourbon Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Paris		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Creating Screen Time Limits for Students on School Devices

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

Section 1: With the enactment of this bill, it will limit screen time use in public schools.

Section 2: The purpose is to reduce many problems that students face because of having too much screen time including stress, poor academic performances, eye issues, and sleep problems.

Section 3: Our bill will not cost anything.

 Section 4: There will be different limitations for different grade levels. Half – Day Kindergarten: Max of 30 minutes on the screen per day. Full – day Kindergarten and 1st: Max of 1 hour on the screen per day. 2nd and 3rd: Max of 1 and a half hours on the screen per day. 4th and 5th: Max of 2 and a half hours on the screen per day. Middle School Students: Max of 3 hours on the screen per day. High School Students: Max of 3 and a half hours on a screen per day.

Section 5: The Kentucky Department of Education will enforce this law. The way this will be evaluated will be through surveys and school visits.

Section 6: Any class needing an exception will have to be approved by the Kentucky Department of Education.

Section 7: There will be exceptions for students with an IEP or 504 with specific technology needs.

Section 8: This bill will go into effect in the 2025 - 2026 school year.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   8	
		Referred to <b>Sen</b> a	Committee: te   1
Sponsors: Carter Mass	ey, Michael Mollett, Gage Howard, McCoy Adwell	Action o	n the Bill
School: Bourbon Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Paris		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To Reducing Single Use Plastic Bags Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 145 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS. To reduce the use of single use bags in the commonwealth of Kentucky we will put a ten cents cost on plastic bags in the stores that offer single use plastic bags.

Section 2: Stores around Kentucky will be forced to put a cost on bags of ten cents a piece. The store inspectors will make sure that they are charging the right amount by looking at the register and looking to see if they are charging for the bags.

Section 3: Any store who does not follow this policy will be fined \$1000 and if they do it a second time it will be \$1500 until the 3rd offense. At the third offense, the store management will meet with the attorney general. If they still don't follow this policy the store will not be allowed to sell plastic bags.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   9	
			Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Remy Davis, Devin Rice, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Bowling MS		House	Senate
City: Owenton		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To Paid Maternity Leave for Kentucky Educators Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Introduction This bill aims to provide Kentucky teachers with six weeks of paid maternity leave following the birth or adoption of a child. Teachers play an essential role in shaping the future of our state, and this support will encourage a healthier work-life balance and improve teacher retention and satisfaction.

Section 2: Definitions 1. Teacher: Any full-time educator employed by a public school in Kentucky. 2. Maternity Leave: Time away from work following the birth or adoption of a child to care for the child and recover physically and emotionally. 3. Paid Leave: Compensation provided during the leave period, equal to the teacher's regular salary.

Section 3: Policy Details 1. Eligibility Teacher must have worked for at least one year in their current position to qualify for paid maternity leave. 2. Benefits Six weeks of paid leave for eligible teachers, to be used consecutively. 3. Coverage School districts will budgets funds to ensure substitute teachers are available while regular teachers are on leave. 4. Non-discrimination This policy applies equally to all eligible teachers, regardless of gender, for adoption or childbirth-related leaves.

Section 4: Funding 1. The Kentucky Department of Education will allocate additional funding to districts to support this program. 2. Schools may apply for supplemental grants from the state to assist with the cost of implementing this program.

Section 5: Benefits of Kentucky 1. Supports Families: Giving teachers the ability to spend essential time with their newborns without worrying about finances. 2. Teacher Retention: Helps retain high-quality educators by offering competitive benefits. The state currently is 41st in the nation for pay. Increased benefits could entice people into a profession that is getting more difficult to fill positions. 3. Improves Morale: Recognizes the hard work of teachers and shows that Kentucky values their well-being.

Conclusion: By passing this bill, Kentucky shows its dedication to supporting the educators who shape our future. Paid maternity leave is an investment in teachers, families, and our state's educational system.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   10	
		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Lindsey Porter,,,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Boyle Co. MS		House _	Senate
City: Danville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To Charity Care in Kentucky Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Charity care is defined as hospital financial assistance for people who need help paying hospital bills. Currently, according to federal law, any nonprofit hospital has to provide charity care in order to receive federal funding. In addition, 33 out of 50 states currently provide state-level charity care to help cover expenses at for-profit hospitals.

Section 2: Upon passage, all for-profit hospitals across the Commonwealth will make available a program for charity care. To apply and qualify for charity care patients will complete a hospital application verifying income and/or need.

Section 3: Charity care applications will be considered on an individual basis. To qualify applicants must meet the following criteria: be residents of Kentucky and have a family income at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Addition criteria may be considered on an individual basis.

Section 4: The hospital's finance department will determine the eligibility of each person who will receive financial assistance. Funds used for Charity Care are tax deductible. In addition, other tax breaks will be made available to help offset the hospitals expense for charity care.

Section 5: The amount of assistance a patient receives will be based on individual needs as determined by the hospital evaluation.

Section 6: Hospitals must advertise Charity Care, including the level of assistance provided and how patients can apply, in an obvious location where patients can easily locate the information. A hospital must make it easily accessible and ensure the Hospital Charity Care program is translated into commonly spoken in the community served by the hospital.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   11	
		Referred to Hous	•
Sponsors: Jayson Crawford, Alex Brewer, Logan Morris,		Action o	n the Bill
School: College View M	15	House	Senate
City: Owensboro		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

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

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 210 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: To further educate K–12 students on mental health and how to manage psychological distress.

Section 2: All public elementary schools shall require 30 minutes of social emotional learning each day

Section 3: All public middle schools/ junior high schools shall utilize any study halls and/or open periods in order to educate students on mental health awareness, causes, and coping skills at least once each week.

Section 4: Elementary and middle schools/ junior high schools may remove this educational segment during a shortened class schedule or school week.

Section 5: All public high schools are required to host a mental health seminar once every month. These high schools shall also provide a support group for students experiencing psychological concern that will gather at least every other week.

Section 6: In the case that one of these high schools fail to hold said meetings or seminars they must reschedule for a later date.

Section 7: Any statute contrary to this Act shall be amended or repealed.

Section 8: This Act takes effect at the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   12	
			Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Thomas Wilson, Alice Koyagi, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Community Montessori School		House	Senate
City: Lexington		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act to improve public school mental health systems. Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This bill aims to improve public school mental health systems by raising the minimum pay of School Counselors to \$50,000 a year and improving the student to counselor ratio by requiring one counselor for every 200 students in Kentucky public schools.

Section 2: These School counselors are severely underpaid, sometimes with less than twenty thousand dollars a year. The highest percentile of pay 'eighty three thousand 'is still underwhelming for what work counselors do. Most school counselors don't want to continue their jobs because they are severely underpaid for the hours they work. This leads to mental instability for school counselors, which leads counselors to work less professionally, which leads to students not getting the help they need.

Section 3: The Kentucky Department of Education will fund this bill with their remaining annual budget. In 2023, there was \$1.5 billion that remained unused, which would comfortably cover the cost of this bill (100–150 million dollars annually). Seeing as these remaining funds are spread across 174 Kentucky counties, this bill is very financially feasible.

Section 4: The Kentucky department of education will enforce the bill.

Section 5: This bill will go into effect at the start of the 2025–2026 school year.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   13	
		Referred to <b>Hou</b> s	Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Keagan Smith, , ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Crosby MS		House	Senate
City: Middletown		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To Requiring all Drivers to Retest Every 10 Years Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This act will require all Kentucky citizens to retake their drivers test every 10 years, or every 2 license plate renewals. This will ensure the safety of all people on the road, but especially young drivers.

Section 2: There will be a six month(180 days) deadline to retake the test. If not met by the deadline, drivers will receive a court date and must provide a reason why the deadline was missed. With valid reason, drivers will get a rescheduled date to take the test, with no repercussions. Drivers who fail to take the test will be fined \$250 every month until the test is taken. Failure to complete the test could result in getting their license revoked. The police department and the driving licensing regional office will enforce this bill.

Section 3: Drivers who do not pass the test will have an opportunity to retake the test in 30 days.

Section 4: Every driver will be required to have a sticker on their license plate that shows what year they had their last test. These stickers will make it easy for officers to look at or scan to make sure you're driving legally. These stickers will be funded using 2% of tax money, and will be purchased every 5 years.

Section 5: This act goes into effect 90 days after passing.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   14	
		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Riya Arora, I	Kinley Chase, Lydia Nelson, Marleigh Riley	Action o	n the Bill
School: Drakes Creek M	15	House	Senate
City: Bowling Green		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To First Aid Training for Middle School Students Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

 Section 1: Traumatic events often happen, leaving students feeling unprepared and potentially endangering lives. The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security reported over 2.9 million 911 calls in 2023. Having basic first aid training will increase students' ability to respond to emergency situations at school, home, and in public places.

Section 2: As part of the physical education curriculum, eighth grade students will participate in a first aid training course.

Section 3: Training will be given through the local health departments through their community outreach programs, which are already funded by the state.

Section 4: This program will be implemented for the beginning of the 2025–2026 school year.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   16	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: te   1
Sponsors: Colette LaTo	ondress, Ilaina Newberry, Anna Shell, Madison Carter	Action o	n the Bill
School: Flaherty ES		House	Senate
City: Ekron		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To Strengthening Penalties for Pet Theft Offenders Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

 Section 1: Penalties for Offenders. Offenders found guilty of pet theft will face the following penalties, based on the severity of the offense: First-time offenders will be subject to a fine of up to \$2,500 and/or community service. Repeat offenders will automatically be charged with a Class C misdemeanor. In Kentucky, a Class C misdemeanor can result in a fine and up to one year in jail. It is considered the least serious misdemeanor and may offer the possibility of probation. The court will determine the specific length of jail time.

Section 2: Animal Recovery and Care Any animals in the possession of the offender will be removed and: Returned to their rightful owner. Placed in foster care, Humane Societies, or shelters. Taken to animal clinics for medical treatment if necessary. The offender will be responsible for covering all veterinary costs.

Section 3: Ownership Restrictions Anyone convicted of pet theft will be prohibited from owning animals for a period of time determined by the court (e.g., 5 years). Repeat offenders will be permanently banned from animal ownership.

Section 4: Funding and Support This bill will be funded and supported by: Animal rights groups (e.g., ASPCA, PETA). Humane Societies. Fines imposed on convicted offenders to cover the 'cost of care' for animals.

Section 5: Mandatory Rehabilitation and Monitoring In addition to the penalties outlined in Section 1, offenders convicted of pet theft must: Undergo mandatory counseling or rehabilitation programs focused on animal welfare and empathy training, as deemed appropriate by the court. Submit to regular monitoring and inspections by animal control officers or designated authorities to ensure compliance with animal ownership restrictions. Offenders who fail to comply with these rehabilitation and monitoring requirements will face additional penalties, including extended probation periods, fines, or additional jail time.

Section 6: Implementation This law will take effect at the beginning of the next fiscal year on July 1, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   17	
			Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Meredith Baldwin, Kady Cook, Keilan Hayes, Story Schultz		Action o	n the Bill
School: Grayson Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Leitchfield		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To The Removal of Sales Tax on Menstrual Hygiene Products **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky** 

Section 1: This bill will repeal the sales tax of 6% from women's menstrual products, because taxing period products as a luxury is bluntly discriminatory and makes basic health-related necessities more expensive.

Section 2: KRS 139.472 provides a list of medical items that are exempt from sales tax. Included in this section are 'Grooming' and 'hygiene products' such as 'soaps, cleaning solutions, shampoo, toothpaste, mouthwash, antiperspirants, and suntan lotions'.

Section 3: KRS 139.472 is amended to read as follows: Insert (1)(j) to read, `Menstrual hygiene products purchased for the regulation or care of a woman's period cycle. Menstrual hygiene and care products include but are not limited to pads, tampons, sanitary napkins, menstrual cups, and period underwear.'

Section 4: KRS 139.472 is amended to read as follows: Insert (1)(j) to read, 'Menstrual hygiene products purchased for the regulation or care of a woman's period cycle. Menstrual hygiene and care products include but are not limited to pads, tampons, sanitary napkins, menstrual cups, and period underwear.'

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

Section 6: This bill shall take effect on Jan 1 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   18	
		Referred to <b>Sen</b> a	Committee: te   1
Sponsors: Jerrica Ward	, Kayden Young, Nate Rink, Levi Smith	Action o	n the Bill
School: Hebron MS		House	Senate
City: Shepherdsville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating to Tornado Shelters in Apartment Buildings Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This new bill states that it is proposed that every apartment building and complex in Kentucky must contain a tornado shelter for people to be allowed to live in it. These tornado shelters must be made to withstand extreme weather conditions, the tornado shelter requirements would be based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) standards.

Section 2: This bill states that if a tornado shelter is not included in an apartment building and does not meet FEMA tornado shelter requirements then the fine should be 20% of the property value.

Section 3: The funding that the government would receive from these fines will be used for tornado shelters subsidies for homeowners. This will make it easier for homeowners to be safer during tornadoes, helping the community overall.

Section 4: This bill will be added to all building codes in Kentucky.

Section 5: This bill will be enforced by the Kentucky Emergency Management on March 1, 2028. This will give landowners time to build the tornado shelters.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   19	
			Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Shelby Seller	s, Paisley Dickinson, Emilio Santillan, Ray Fehd	Action o	n the Bill
School: Henderson Co.	North MS	House	Senate
City: Henderson		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To the Creation of Luxury Goods Tax on Lottery and Sport Bet Winnings

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

Section 1: The purpose of this bill is to instate a luxury goods tax on lottery and sport bet winnings so that families in poverty can receive food, clothing, and school supplies from the currently established YSC and backpack programs in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Section 2: The luxury good tax will increase the current tax on winnings from 6% to 10%. The luxury good tax is a tax that is enforced on non-essential goods like jewelry, electronics, and designer clothing. This tax is not enforced in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and everything has a tax of 6%.

Section 3: If the lottery fails to impose this tax, they will be fined 10% of the non application taxed funds.

Section 4: This law will be enforced by the Department of Revenue.

Section 5: This law will go into effect January 1, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   20	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b> t	
Sponsors: Greyson Clo	ern, Georgia Barton, Sofia Greco, Jake Milligan	Action o	n the Bill
School: Holy Spirit ES		House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To eligibility requirements for candidates seeking elected office in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

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

SECTION 1. The question to be submitted to the voters of the Commonwealth shall read as follows: Are you in favor of requiring candidates for public office in Kentucky to successfully complete a Civic Knowledge Examination and provide a health certification to serve in office before filing for candidacy'

SECTION 2. It is proposed that Section 32 of the Constitution of Kentucky be amended to read as follows: No person shall be a Representative who, at the time of his election, 'has not successfully completed the Civic Knowledge Examination and health certification' for which he may be chosen. No person shall be a Senator who, at the time of his election '... if they have not successfully the completed Civic Knowledge Examination and health certification thereof in the district for which he may be chosen.

SECTION 3. It is proposed that Section 72 of the Constitution of Kentucky be amended to read as follows: The Governor and the Lieutenant Governor shall of `... successfully completed a Civic Knowledge Examination and health certification requirements...'

SECTION 4. IT IS PROPOSED THAT A NEW SECTION BE ADDED TO THE CONSTITUTION OF KENTUCKY TO READ AS FOLLOWS: No person shall qualify to run for any state, county, or local elected office in this State unless they have: (a) Successfully completed a Civic Knowledge Examination within six (6) months of filing their candidacy, evaluating their knowledge of civic principles, including U.S. history and government. (b) Submitted a health certification conducted by a licensed health care provider of this State, verifying they are of sound physical and cognitive health to perform the duties of the office they seek.

SECTION 5. This amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the Commonwealth for their ratification or rejection at the time of the next election, November 3, 2026.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   21	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	_
Sponsors: Jane Emerson, Carson Fowler, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: James Madison MS		House	Senate
City: Madisonville		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

# An Act Relating To Highway Safety to Prevent Hydroplaning Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This bill would help prevent hydroplaning between mile marker 6 to the end of the Western Kentucky Parkway at Elizabethtown.

Section 2: This bill requires new drains on the Western Kentucky Parkway to prevent hydroplaning.

Section 3: The Kentucky Road Department will decide how far the drains are apart according to the sewage.

Section 4: If any one person would block a drain they would be charged a 150 dollar fine.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   22	
			Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Alex Schultz	, Cooper Crawford, jhett Johnson, Olivia Harper	Action o	n the Bill
School: Livingston Co. N	MS	House	Senate
City: Burna		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To Sale of Tobacco Products to Persons Under 21 Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: An act proposing an amendment to section 438.310 of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to the sale of tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or vapor products, to persons under age 21 prohibited penalty.

Section 2: It is proposed that section 4 of the constitution of Kentucky be amended to read as follows: A person who violates subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall be subject to a fine of not less than one thousand dollars (1,000) nor more than three thousand dollars (3,000) for a first violation, jail time of up to 3 months for person making the sale and loss of tobacco license for 6 months for the second violation, and jail time of one year for person making the sale and loss of tobacco license permanently for third violation.

Section 3: This amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the Commonwealth for their ratification or rejection at the time and in the manner provided for under Sections 246 and 257 of the Constitution and under KRS 118.415.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   23	
		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Tilly Maynard, , ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Louisville Collegiate MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To Divorces During Pregnancy Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: In Kentucky, a law prohibits women from getting divorced if they are pregnant. If they are pregnant they CAN still apply for a divorce but they will not be granted one until they have given birth or their pregnancy is over.

Section 2: The idea that you cannot divorce someone while pregnant is obviously not a calming thought for someone trying to get a divorce, this has been very clearly voiced by the women of Kentucky. There are many support groups for women going through this exact issue and it upsets them so much that the American Pregnancy Association even has a segment on it to comfort women going through this unfortunate problem.

Section 3: Some laws state that women who are pregnant can apply for divorce while pregnant but it can't be finalized until the end or months after the pregnancy.

Section 4: There is already a law set in place in Kentucky that prevents pregnant people from a divorce, this law also is applied in multiple other states.

Section 5: California, Texas, Arizona, Arkansas, Kentucky and Missouri are states that have bans against pregnant women getting divorced. In Alabama, Delaware, Hawaii, Indiana, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wyoming there isn't a complete ban but judges will likely wait until after the pregnancy. All other states have no ban on pregnant women getting divorced. Section 6: Our solution is to change this law. Our law would allow women to get divorced while they are pregnant. However, once the baby is born the parents will have 50–50 custody. The parents will be able to have a custody battle if they feel that the arrangements are unfair. Both parents will still have to pay child support if the 50–50 custody changes.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   24	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: te   2
Sponsors: Mack Hill, Grace Levine, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Louisville Collegiate MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To Suicide Prevention Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: In the state of Kentucky, the suicide rates are higher than the suicide rates in all of the US. In Kentucky, there are 18 suicides for every 100,000 people. In the US, however, there are only 14.2. This shows that Kentucky has an alarming mental health crisis.

Section 2: People who are in poverty in the state of Kentucky mainly only have access to the 988 hotline for suicide prevention. The hotline is a national resource, but every state is federally mandated to decide how it is organized. This means Kentucky can easily make changes to how the hotline is run. Some KY Schools require the 988 hotline and other crisis lines to be written on student ID cards. Section 3: There have been instances that have come out where workers in the 988 hotline have been extremely unhelpful. Their harm can go either way, not enough or too much. For example, workers have gotten overwhelmed during calls and just called the police on the caller even if that is not what the person needed. In other instances, the workers seemed to just not care, they said things like 'go take a bath' or 'drink a cup of tea' which are irrelevant and not at all helpful.

Section 4: There are other resources for suicide prevention, for example, emergency suicide prevention in hospitals. This would be the answer to our problem, but hospital bills add up. Going to hospitals could put these people in more debt, and harm their health even more. Thus, we are still in need of a helpful source that is inexpensive.

Section 5: The suicide hotline connects the caller to a worker who is near them. With this knowledge, a solution to this problem is easy. We need to require the same training that we require psychologists to endure. This training includes a master's in either counseling, psychology, or social work. By enforcing this bill, we wouldn't be taking tax dollars away from the people, only requiring specific credentials to hire workers.

Section 6: This bill would go into effect in January 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   25	
			Committee:
Sponsors: Callie Fergus	son, Olivia Poague, Jake Patton,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Lyon Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Eddyville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To Kentucky's Road Test Retake Policy Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: A new section of KRS will be written to state: "If an individual fails the driving road test, they must wait a minimum of 7 days before retaking the test. Individuals may fail their road test up to THREE times before having to wait a mandatory period of six months before retaking the test. During the six month period, the individual will also be required to record an additional 15 hours of driving practice with a Kentucky licensed driver that is at least 21 years old."

Section 2: The purpose of this act is to reduce the number of road test retake attempts that an individual is currently allowed. Currently, if an individual fails their driving road test, they can retake the test 7 days later, and are allowed to retake the test up to SIX times before a mandatory six month waiting period. This bill seeks to reduce the number of attempts from six attempts to three attempts, and require additional driving practice during the six month waiting period.

Section 3: This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2026.

°	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   26	
the		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Laurel Johns	on, Gideon Ross, Chaney Clark,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Murray MS		House	Senate
City: Murray		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To The Installation of Vape Drop Boxes in Kentucky Schools Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 211 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: All Kentucky public middle & high schools will be required to install ONE vape drop-box.

Section 2: A vape drop-box shall be defined as follows: a secure receptacle to anonymously dispose of vape and tobacco products.

Section 3: Vape drop-boxes shall be collected & disposed of weekly via city or county health department officials.

Section 4: A 1% tobacco product tax will be implemented to offset the cost of vape drop-boxes in Kentucky schools.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   27	
			Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Keshini Patel, Mahi Patel, ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Noe MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To food wastage Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 224 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) To address the issue of food wastage, reduce environmental harm, and promote sustainable practices, this Act establishes a statewide organic waste collection and composting program. (2) Kentucky ranks 15th among states in food wastage and 22nd in waste reuse as of 2024, with the average household wasting approximately \$2,052 annually. (3) Food waste contributes significantly to climate change, methane emissions, and landfill overuse. This program aims to mitigate these effects by encouraging citizens to participate in organic waste recycling.

SECTION 2. (1) All jurisdictions in Kentucky shall provide organic waste collection services to residents and businesses. (2) Organic waste includes, but is not limited to: (a) Food waste, (b) Green materials such as grass clippings and leaves, (c) Landscape and pruning waste, (d) Organic textiles, and other compostable materials. (3) Local governments and special districts shall establish collection systems for organic waste and process it into compost for resale and reuse.

SECTION 3. (1) To encourage participation, citizens will receive a stainless steel bin for collecting organic waste. (2) Residents who submit organic waste to designated food wastage warehouses will earn credits that can be exchanged for tax incentives. (a) The amount of credits earned will depend on the quantity of waste submitted. (b) Businesses and residents can also purchase compost from these warehouses for personal or commercial use. (3) Any remaining compost at the end of each week will be recycled for further agricultural or environmental use.

SECTION 4. (1) Funding for this program will be secured through the following sources: (a) Grants from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to support the construction of food wastage warehouses across Kentucky. (b) Revenue generated from the sale of compost to residents and businesses at a rate of \$10′\$50 per cubic yard. (2) Surplus revenue will be used to expand the program and build additional food wastage warehouses statewide.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   28	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	
Sponsors: Sam Peterwo	orth, Ruby Scott, ,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Noe MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To light pollution in Kentucky Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 224 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) To reduce light pollution in Kentucky, all newly installed public outdoor light fixtures shall be required to include coverings that direct light downward and prevent excess light from radiating into the atmosphere. (2) Existing outdoor public light fixtures shall be retrofitted with coverings when scheduled for maintenance or replacement.

SECTION 2. (1) Funds originally allocated for purchasing new street lamps shall be redirected to purchase cost-efficient, covered outdoor lighting fixtures. (2) This policy requires no additional penalties or incentives, as compliance will be managed through normal public infrastructure maintenance schedules.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   29	
		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Max Perkins	, Paul Stone, Noah Seow, Jude Tasman	Action o	n the Bill
School: Noe MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To Public School Transportation 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: (1) The Kentucky Department of Education shall establish a grant program to support: (a) Increased salaries for trained bus drivers, (b) Procurement and maintenance of large school buses, and (c) Expansion of bus routes to ensure all public school students have access to transportation. (2) The grant program shall prioritize funding to districts with the greatest transportation needs and driver shortages.

SECTION 2. (1) The Kentucky Department of Education shall implement the following procedures to reduce driver fatigue and increase retention. (a) Students must take an hour long course that covers bus rules and safety, (b) Provide bus driver seats that are comfortable for long hours, and (c) Offer high school internships, or community service hours, to be aids on the buses for misbehavior.

SECTION 3. (1) Funding for this program shall be generated by an increase in property taxes. (2) The additional funds collected through property tax increases shall be allocated to: (a) Increasing yearly salaries for bus drivers, (b) Purchasing and maintaining buses, and (c) Expanding transportation routes to underserved areas.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   30	
			Committee: te   2
Sponsors: Emerson Bo	wling, Tyani Cruz, Willow Bugg, Addy Fogle	Action o	n the Bill
School: Noe MS		House _	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To teacher safety Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 161 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) Teachers in public schools shall have the right to take protective actions if a student threatens their personal safety by: (a) Resisting harm or preventing further injury, (b) Placing an object or barrier between themselves and a student, provided that no harm comes to the student as a result. (2) The Kentucky Department of Education shall develop guidelines and training programs for teachers to ensure that protective actions are used responsibly and only in situations of imminent danger.

SECTION 2. (1) All public school classrooms shall be equipped with: (a) Advanced door locks suitable for emergency lockdowns, (b) Glass breakers for safe window evacuation during emergencies, and (c) Rope ladders for classrooms located above the ground floor. (2) The Kentucky Department of Education shall allocate funding to ensure that schools meet these safety equipment standards.

SECTION 3. (1) Funding for this initiative shall come from grants provided by the Kentucky Department of Education and federal school safety programs. (2) School districts must submit a report detailing compliance with safety equipment installation and teacher training by December 31, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   31	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: te   1
Sponsors: Bodhi Farme	r, Bodhi Naylor, Henry Braden,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Noe MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To the relief of student debt for Kentucky citizens Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

SECTION 1. (1) The Kentucky Citizen Student Debt Relief Program (KCSDF) is hereby established to provide financial assistance to graduates with student loan debt who meet the following eligibility requirements: (a) Graduates must have a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.5. (b) Graduates must have attended an accredited college or university in Kentucky, enrolled at least half-time during their program. (c) Graduates must be employed in Kentucky following graduation, with payments issued annually for up to 10 years of in-state work. (2) Eligible graduates shall receive the following financial assistance: (a) A maximum of \$5,000 per year for a graduate of a 2-year joint program. (b) A maximum of \$10,000 per year for a graduate of a 4-year joint program.

SECTION 2. (1) The KCSDF shall be funded as follows: (a) An annual budget of \$50,000,000 allocated from the state general fund; (b) A one-time startup fund of \$25,000,000 to establish the program infrastructure. (2) The program shall operate in partnership with the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES)

program to ensure seamless integration and support for eligible students.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   32	
		Referred to <b>Hou</b> s	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: jordyn dillard	d, Hudson Roney, Sloan Shelton, Ethan Sparks	Action o	n the Bill
School: Notre Dame Ac	ademy ES	House	Senate
City: Louisville		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Products Packaging and Labeling Requirements Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Section 6 of KRS 217.037 Title 902, Chapter 045, Regulation 190 is amended to read as follows: Amend (4)(e) to include 'Delta 9 THC-infused beverages may not resemble energy drinks in packaging, branding, or marketing. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of: Symbols, colors, or designs commonly associated with energy drinks; Words such as 'energy,' 'boost,' or 'power' that imply stimulation or enhanced physical performance; Any branding that could mislead consumers into believing the product is an energy drink.'

Section 2: The 2018 Farm Bill allows the production of hemp in the United States, as hemp with a tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) level of 0.3% or less on a dry weight basis is not a controlled substance. As of 2020, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) has licensed 960 hemp growers to grow up to 32,000 acres and licensed 4.6 million square feet of greenhouse space for production. Processors and handlers reported \$193.9 million in gross product sales in 2019. The FDA continues to work on bringing safe, legal products to the market. This amendment focuses on that work, specifically: a. Clear difference between Delta–9 THC beverages and energy drinks to reduce the risk of accidental consumption by consumers who may misunderstand the product's effects. New packaging will help to eliminate this confusion. b. Young adults or teenagers, who are primary consumers of energy drinks, may be less likely to mistakenly purchase or consume Delta–9 THC products if the bright, flashy designs often associated with energy drinks is changed. c. The amendment demonstrates a proactive approach to safeguarding public health, which could bolster trust in the regulatory system and cannabis legalization efforts. The amendment signals that Kentucky is fostering a responsible and well-regulated cannabis market, which could encourage further policy development and investment.

Section 3: All regulations or parts of regulations in conflict with this amendment are hereby repealed.

Section 4: This bill shall go into effect on January 1, 2026.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   33	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: te   2
Sponsors: Isabelle Bal	lard, Hailey Goff, Rhett Sinkhorn,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Notre Dame A	cademy ES	House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To the Requirement of No-Kill Animal Shelters with a 90% Save Rate **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky** 

Section 1: This act is to improve the quality of life for animals in Kentucky by requiring that all animal shelters become no-kill shelters and have a 90% save rate for shelter animals.

 Section 2: Definitions: No-Kill Shelter is defined as a shelter that saves at least 90% of the animals brought into the shelter through reconnecting animals to their owners, finding homes through fostering and adoption, and providing medical care. Save Rate: The percentage of all animals brought into a shelter saved from euthanasia. Euthanasia: the act of humanely ending the life of an animal.

Section 3: By January 1, 2028, all animal shelters in KY will have a save rate of 90% of all animals they take in. Euthanasia can only be allowed if the animal has a terminal illness, is suffering from unbearable pain, or is a threat to other animals and/or humans and cannot be rehabilitated.

Section 4: Implementation and Compliance Measures: All shelters must complete reports to their city-county board of health which reports to the KY Dept. of Agriculture. In addition to current reporting, they will begin reporting: \* Total number of animals taken in. \* Total number of animals returned to their owners, placed with a new owner, transferred to rescue organizations, and euthanasia cases. \* Reasons for each case of euthanasia should be documented. Annual inspections by the KY Dept. of Agriculture will occur to ensure compliance.

Section 5: Funding and Grants: \* The KY Dept. of Agriculture will provide funds to support shelters as they transition to no-kill shelters. Shelters may apply for grants from the 'Animal Control and Care Fund' which is a special fund in the State Treasury to be used for daily necessities, providing medical care, establishing or supporting existing spay/neuter programs, and providing behavior rehabilitation. Applications will be accepted annually by July 15th through the Dept. of Agriculture. \* Tax incentives will be given to KY veterinarians and licensed animal medical providers for providing medical care at a discounted rate. \*The KY Dept. of Agriculture will also keep an updated database of local non-profit organizations and rescue organizations for local shelters to partner with.

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

°	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   34	
the		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	_
Sponsors: Annika Bisho	op, Blair Derenge, Gabby Hansen,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Our Lady of Lo	urdes ES	House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

# An Act Relating To Offering Life Skills In High School Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Public and private highschools will now offer life skills classes, mainly managing and budgeting money and how to use your finances, but there will still be various life skills like cooking and cleaning included. Such states like Virginia already offer a class similar to this called 'Adulting 101.' One high school in Kentucky already offers this class.

Section 2: This class will be an elective offered to juniors and seniors in high school. This class will offer such things as cooking, cleaning, personal finances, food preparation, and house maintenance.

Section 3: This bill will be funded by the Kentucky Department of education.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   35	
		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Audrey Coni	ng, Charlotte Box–Lacey, River Hutson,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Redwood Coop	erative School	House	Senate
City: Lexington		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Taxation Of Menstrual Care Products

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

Section 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 139 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: menstrual care products including tampons, menstrual cups, and menstrual pads will be tax exempt.

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

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   36	
		Referred to Hous	Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Graham Dur	ncan, Emily Mazzoni, Taylor Wagner, Molly Mooney	Action o	n the Bill
School: Sayre School M	IS	House	Senate
City: Lexington		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Decriminalizing Homelessness in Kentucky
Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1. This bill will repeal the 'Safer Kentucky Act,' KRS 532, which includes clauses that make homelessness a crime.

Section 2. The `Safer Kentucky Act,' which was passed on July 15, 2024, makes it a crime to occupy public spaces by sleeping in cars and on public benches. Most unhoused people can not afford or find other shelters; therefore, this act makes it unlawful to be homeless.

Section 3. The following KRS section is repealed: KRS 532. This will repeal the 'Safer Kentucky Act' to make it legal again to sleep in your car and in certain public spots. This act further proposes to make designated spots in parking lots where unhoused persons can stay for one night.

Section 4. There is no cost associated with this bill.

Section 5. This bill will be enacted on January 1, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   37	
			Committee: Ite   1
Sponsors: Catherine B	ennett, Jane Garlington, Zahra Holman, Lea Gabriel	Action o	n the Bill
School: Sayre School N	ΛS	House	Senate
City: Lexington		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated
City: Lexington			Dereated

An Act Relating To Universal Preschool for Children under the Age of Five **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky** 

Section 1: The purpose of this Act is to provide free access to preschool for all children, regardless of how much money their families have.

Section 2: The U.S. government recognizes that the early years of a child's life are critical for all kinds of development. Universal access to preschool education will improve outcomes and learning for children. Preschool also promotes social and emotional development, making it easier for them when they start elementary school. Kids that attend preschool have higher literacy, numeracy, and language fluency skills than their peers who did not attend preschool. By starting early, children can develop the fundamental skills they need to succeed in school later on.

Section 3: Kentucky shall provide financial assistance and resources to states to create or expand high-quality preschool programs that serve all children, including those from underserved communities. Private preschools cost \$400-\$1,300 per month, while the minimum wage in Kentucky is \$7.25-\$16.25 an hour. This bill will help children that come from lower income households get the education they need and deserve.

Section 4: This bill will be enacted in January of 2025

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   38	
		Referred to Hous	Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Alex William	s, Levi O'Nan, Joseph Hatch, Nathan Sweigart	Action o	n the Bill
School: Scott Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Georgetown		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act relating to alleviating the critical secondary math and science teacher shortage 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 158 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) To incentivize qualified secondary math and science instructors to join the profession and reduce teacher shortages, a bonus of \$4,000.00 shall be endowed to any new math or science teacher after the completion of one full school year, for the first four years of their service as a fulltime math or science teacher.

SECTION 2: Kentucky currently ranks #41 in the nation for teacher pay. According to the United States Department of Education, Kentucky has critical teacher shortages spanning nearly every county of our Commonwealth. However, the most serious teacher shortages are found in secondary STEM subjects.

SECTION 3: Funding of these bonuses to the Department of Education through the General Fund will be generated by revenue produced through an increase in the tax on chewing tobacco and snuff. Currently, cigarettes and vapes are taxed at \$1.10 per pack/cartridge, the equivalent of \$44 per pound. Chewing tobacco and snuff are currently taxed at \$.19 per 1 ½ ounce on snuff and \$.80/pound for chewing tobacco. The tax on chewing tobacco and snuff shall be raised to \$.40/pack, which will raise approximately \$689,000/year. An annual operational fee will be levied in the amount of \$1.2 million/year on the US Smokeless Tobacco Company which operates in Kentucky. Total revenue generated will yield 516 new Secondary STEM teacher bonuses each year for the next four years.

SECTION 4: There is appropriated to the Department of Education from the General Fund \$1.89 million dollars in Fiscal Year 2025 – 2028 for the purpose of new secondary STEM teacher bonuses.

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

TO "	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   39	
the		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: <b>te   1</b>
Sponsors: Kiersten Kercsmar, Luke Jeter, Christina Sheppard, Ellie Askew		Action o	n the Bill
School: Scott Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Georgetown		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act relating to support for Kentucky's bus drivers through student leadership **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky** 

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 158.110 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: (1) A one course credit for Leadership Dynamics (KY Course Code 331010) shall be granted to eligible high school Seniors who serve one school year as a Student Bus Monitor on routes composed of elementary and middle school students. (2) Interested Seniors shall complete a job application as determined by each District and be selected by District Transportation Departments as official Student Bus Monitors. It is recommended that Districts place Student Bus Monitors in pairs. (3) Bus Monitors will complete the Kentucky Academic Credit Agreement Form currently in use for Co-Op and Internship students. (4) Each District's driver training instructor shall qualify the Student Bus Monitors with training in proper student bus entry, exit, rules, and student management. (5) The choice to utilize the Student Bus Monitor system shall rest with each bus driver. (6) The ability to create an official discipline referral for bus riders shall remain with the bus driver.

SECTION 2. Kentucky schools are facing a bus driver crisis. Districts do not have enough drivers because of the difficulty of the job and discipline issues with students that make it even more challenging. At the same time, many high school Seniors have flexible class schedules and are seeking practical skills and job experience through programs like co-oping. This bill provides support for bus drivers and real-life skills for Seniors. Mentors will decrease discipline issues on buses, supporting Kentucky's hard working drivers and helping reduce critical bus driver shortages.

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

SECTION 4. This bill shall go into effect at the beginning of each district's 2025–2026 school year.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   40	
			Committee: se   2
Sponsors: Crawford Brown, Gabriel Ratterman, Owen Higdon, Hayden Hughes		Action o	n the Bill
School: St. Margaret M	ary Catholic School	House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To The Creation Of A New Section Of Kentucky Revised Statute Chapter 158 To Be Titled Life Skills Course

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

Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS 158 CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS: [1] All public, private or home schooled students classified as juniors or seniors shall enroll in and complete a life skills course prior to graduation.

Section 2: The life skills course to be implemented shall be a single required course in high schools for juniors or seniors. It shall instruct as to practical skills for the students' future; such as financial management and responsibility (avoiding or eliminating credit card debt, opening and maintaining bank accounts, creating and abiding by a budget, mortgage payment, how escrow works for a home, how to invest in stocks and/or bonds), how to make good nutrition choices for a healthy lifestyle, stress management techniques, drug and alcohol avoidance, problem–solving and critical thinking, public speaking, parenting classes, changing a tire, changing oil in a vehicle, how to tie a tie, how to sew a button on one's clothing, creating a resumé and cover letter for employers, job interview techniques and practice, effective time management, CPR and safety education and any other essential abilities needed for everyday adult life.

Section 3: Regardless of whether a young adult enters college or joins the work force upon high school graduation, many young adults lack the practical knowledge and understanding to manage their personal financial responsibilities. In addition to a focus on finances though, this new section shall enrich young adults with other valuable and essential skills to be successful in everyday life.

Section 4: This course shall be required for high school graduation. Credits for this course shall be applied to the students graduation requirement just as any other core course, such as Math, English or Science. Each school shall hire a new staff member or train a current educator to teach the course. The Kentucky Department of Education shall create the curriculum and educator training standards for the course and the state graduation requirements.

Section 5: This bill shall be implemented for fall of 2026–2027. Any statute contrary to this act shall be amended or repealed.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   41	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: te   2
Sponsors: Gabrielle So	rg, Addy Ogburn, Riley Smith, Elizabeth Gohmann	Action o	n the Bill
School: St. Margaret M	ary Catholic School	House	Senate
City: Louisville		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating to the Implementation of a Wellness Allowance Program for K-12 Teachers in the Commonwealth of Kentucky

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

SECTION 1: Wellness Allowance Program shall be provided to all K-12 Public School Teachers in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Allowance shall be reimbursed monthly upon submission of valid expenses.

 SECTION 2: Qualifying expenses for the Wellness Allowance Program include but are not limited to; Gym Memberships, Group Fitness Classes, Massage and Wellness Therapies and Fitness Equipment.

SECTION 3: Teachers have the biggest impact on student achievement in grades K-12, but in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, teachers are turning over at a rate of 10.9% annually. According to the career resources site Zippia, 80% of employees engaged in a Wellness program say they enjoy their work. Wellness programs will attract new teachers to enter the profession, and will keep them in the classrooms. Zippia reports that 87% of employees consider wellness options when choosing an employer, and that Wellness programs reduce absenteeism by 14–19%. According to the Kentucky Commissioner of Education, on a daily basis, we have 1,500 to 2,000 less teachers than are needed to adequately run our schools. A Wellness program will reduce health-care costs for the state funded plan that supports teachers and their families. Zippia reports that 72% of companies saw a reduction in healthcare costs after the implementation of a Wellness program. Teachers report high job stress as a contributing factor to the teacher shortage. Exercise and massage have been proven therapies to reduce stress, increase overall well-being and improve mood. According to the American Psychology Association, 32% of adults report feeling less stressed after exercising.

SECTION 4: This bill shall take effect on May 6th, 2025, National Teacher Appreciation Day.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   42	
			Committee:
<b>Sponsors</b> : Makenna Allen, Hannah McGhee, Jonas McFadden, Carter Turner–Mohon		Action c	n the Bill
School: Sts. Peter and Paul ES – Hopkinsville		House	Senate
City: Hopkinsville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Establishing Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) in Kentucky Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: KRS 116.045, Section 2 is amended to read that upon reaching age 18, all voters are to be immediately registered to vote as an Independent if they have resided in the state of Kentucky for over one (1) year.

Section 2: This act will take effect on January 1, 2026.

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the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   43	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	Committee: <b>te   1</b>
Sponsors: Marianne Jawahir, Lora Pesis, Stella Dowden,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Stuart Pepper MS		House	Senate
City: Brandenburg		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

### An Act Relating To Reducing the Use of Vapes Among Grades 6-12 Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Vaping is a significant issue among students in grades 6–12 in Kentucky. Vaping negatively affects students, including causing a lack of focus and mood swings – the effects are not limited to just this. More than 25% of high schoolers and 14% of eighth graders say they have used a vape before. This bill will decrease the amount of students who vape by implementing real consequences.

Section 2: Certain measures such as six hours of community service and underage users having their records marked will be taken to lessen the amount of vape usage among grades 6–12. Having to perform community service will teach students to be active in their community and to be active volunteers, and because many schools do not mark records for vaping, having their records marked will teach them to be responsible for their actions.

Section 3: With the consequences that will be enforced, support will be too. Therapy will provide students with the skills needed to progress in life without using vapes as a coping mechanism. Without the counseling this bill will help provide, the chance of returning to unhealthy ways to manage stressful emotions is much stronger. With that being said, Students must complete a therapy course and six hours of community service.

Section 4: The money to fund this bill will come from the Kentucky Lottery.

Section 5: This bill will be implemented in the 2025–2026 school year.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   44	
		Referred to	Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Carlos Bravo	o, Alyssa Fleming, Mason Raikes, Evie Humphrey	Action o	n the Bill
School: Stuart Pepper I	MS	House	Senate
City: Brandenburg		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

## An Act Relating To suicide screenings in Kentucky schools Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: 15 percent of Kentucky high school students have reported having seriously considered suicide within the last twelve months. 17.4 percent of middle schoolers in Kentucky have considered committing suicide. This bill will help support suicide prevention by finding students in 6th–12th grade who may be having thoughts of self-harm and potentially suicide. This bill will mandate the requirement of a screening for all students in 6th–12th grade for suicide.

Section 2: This bill will ensure that students in grades 6–12 will get the psychological attention that they need by requiring a suicide screening. The screening will ask questions about their mental health and if they have thoughts about self-harm. If the students score low on this screening they will have to have a one-on-one with their school counselor. If the counselor believes they need further help with their mental health they will speak with their legal guardians about treatment options. The students will be mandated to take this test each school year

Section 3: Our bill will not need any funding unless we need extra psychological care, paid for by tax dollars.

Section 4: This Act will go into effect January 1, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   45	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	
Sponsors: Avery McInto	osh, maggie skipworth, River Penick,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Todd Co. MS		House	Senate
City: Elkton		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Secondary Students Taking a Required CPR/AED and Epipen class. **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky** 

Section 1: (1) All students must take a CPR class and an AED Epipen med kit class in either a gym class or a practical living class.(2) The school must send home a permission slip for both parents and students to sign. (3) The health department or a local branch of the Red Cross and the American Heart Association will teach these classes. (4) We will have the Red Cross and the American Heart Association sponsor this class.

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

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   46	
			Committee: Ite   1
Sponsors: Abigail Cond	lley, Ben Crisp, Elliana Kennedy,	Action o	n the Bill
School: Walden School	MS	House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating to the Prohibition of Solitary Confinement in Juvenile Detention Centers

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

 Section 1: A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 196 IS CREATED TO READ: Prohibition of solitary confinement (1) Solitary confinement will be abolished in all juvenile detention centers in the state of Kentucky (2) Any facility found to be in violation of this prohibition shall be subject to penalties, including but not limited to fines and the potential loss of state funding.

Section 2: Definitions (1) "Solitary confinement" means the placement of a juvenile in a designated cell or room, isolated from other individuals for 22 hours or more per day. (2) "Juvenile detention facility" refers to any facility operated by the Commonwealth or any local government for the detention of juveniles.

Section 3: Implementation of Alternatives (1) Each juvenile detention facility shall implement evidence-based alternative behavior management strategies to ensure safety without resorting to solitary confinement including but not limited to mental health care for detainees. (2) Facilities shall receive training on these strategies and shall report on their implementation annually to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Section 4: Exceptions. (1) Solitary confinement may only be used in cases of immediate danger to the juvenile or others, and only for the shortest time necessary and as a last resort. (2) Any use of solitary confinement under this exception must be documented and reported to the Department of Juvenile Justice within 24 hours as well as the detainee's guardian(s).

Section 5: Effective Date. This act shall take effect immediately, following its passage and signature.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   47	
			Committee: te   2
Sponsors: Clara Schlaf	er, Bergen Selznick, Vicky Nori, Kate Macobin	Action o	n the Bill
School: Western MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating to Mandating 30-minute Breaks in 6-12 Public Schools. Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Studies have shown that breaks in the school day improve students' ability to focus, improve their social skills and emotional well-being, and enhance cognitive development. Time to socialize, stretch, and use the bathroom is incredibly beneficial to learning. A study from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University suggests students ages 12–14 can only focus for 20 to 40 minutes, students 15–18 can only focus for roughly 48 minutes. This bill proposed thirty minutes of break time for students per day.

Section 2: This bill mandates thirty minutes of break time for students in public schools daily. These 30 minutes can be broken up and spaced as the individual school sees fit. These breaks can not be revoked as punishment and must include elements of movement, bathroom usage, and availability for communication between students and their peers (talk time). Time will not be taken from related arts or elective classes to accommodate this break.

Section 3: To enforce this bill, district board members will conduct surprise visits to schools annually. Schools in violation will follow a progressive disciplinary system. A school's first offense will be met with a stern reminder and an immediate correction. A school's second offense will end the same as the first, however, the board will now visit two weeks after to make sure expectations are being met. A school's third offense will result in a meeting with members of the board and the school's admin to see where the disconnect is. This meeting may result in rearrangement of the school's schedule, bi-monthly checks, or another routine set up to ensure success on this measure.

Section 4: This bill does not require any additional funding.

Section 5: This bill will be put into action on the first day of the 2025 – 2026 school year. Clear deadlines will be presented and used to make sure schools and districts are ready to put this bill in place. Our first proposed deadline; Deadline for districts to submit established guidelines to the state is June 5, 2025. Deadline for schools to submit revised guidelines (if necessary) to districts is July 30, 2025.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   48	
		Referred to Hous	
Sponsors: Aria Spalione, Ellis Cole, Liyr Bender-Cortie, Evelyn Hamilton		Action o	n the Bill
School: Western MS		House	Senate
City: Louisville		☐ Passed☐ Defeated☐	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To Providing More Accessible and Affordable Mental Health Care **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky** 

Section 1: Have you ever wanted to tell someone something, but you were too afraid to' Lots of people struggle with that same issue, and so they went to a therapist. Although not everyone can talk to a therapist because it was too expensive or not close enough. 42% of adults who wanted therapy said they couldn't afford it. Untreated mental illness is a major cause of crime and homelessness. Providing affordable and accessible mental health care will support people's ability to participate fully in our society and eliminate many problems faced in our communities. This bill proposes to provide more accessible and affordable Mental health care to the citizens of Kentucky.

Section 2: Our bill would make mental health more available and affordable. We would lower the price of therapy to \$35 per session and make therapy more accessible. This bill seeks to offer an affordable, public option for therapy while maintaining the choice for people to maintain a private practitioner if they would prefer. These public therapists will practice offices that already exist within counties throughout Kentucky. Each county will be provided 1–2 therapists depending on the population of that county.

Section 3: This bill will be enforced by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services. If someone is not receiving the care they need, the Cabinet will intervene with the center that is denying care by enforcing that care be provided.

Section 4: This bill would utilize only 4% of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services budget, about \$19,000,000. Section 5: Our bill will be enacted on July 1st, 2026.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   49	
			Committee: se   1
Sponsors: Ria Medina, , ,		Action o	n the Bill
School: Winburn MS		House	Senate
City: Lexington		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

An Act Relating To a Checkoff on Kentucky Thoroughbred to Fund Research and Advertisement

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

 Section 1: This bill states that when selling a racehorse in Kentucky at public auction there will be a 0.25% checkoff charged. This checkoff is going to be run through the Kentucky Horseman's Society and will collect an average of 2 million dollars each year. 25% of this money will fund research and 75% will go towards advertisements that support growing the sport of racing.

Section 2: (1) This bill will, if passed, go into effect on January 1, 2025. To apply for the research grant there will be a 500,000 dollar cap on funding, and the study will only be funded if it is determined that it will benefit horses' safety or promote races. To apply for an advertisement there will be a 1.5 million dollar cap, and it will be determined by the Kentucky Horseman's Society if the advertisement is going to support industry growth in Kentucky. Applications will be open each year from January 1–January 31 and if approved the study or campaign will receive money at the end of February. (2) Any statute contrary to this act will be amended or repealed.

the	KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Bluegrass Bill	BG   50	
		Referred to <b>Sena</b>	_
Sponsors: Claira Dominick, Dharshini Muthukumaran, Emma Xiao,		Action on the Bill	
School: Winburn MS		House	Senate
City: Lexington		□ Passed □ Defeated	□ Passed □ Defeated

# An Act Relating To limiting synthetic pesticide usage Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

 Section (1): Effective January 1, 2026, the use of synthetic pesticides in Kentucky will be limited to 6 gallons of synthetic pesticide per acre every calendar year.

Section (2): To incentivize farmers that use organic pesticides or less synthetic pesticides they will receive tax credits and subsidies. To fund this bill, we will reallocate the existing farming subsidies and grants.

Section (3): Failure to follow these regulations will result in up to a \$250 fine depending on the severity of usage.