

2018 General Assembly

Final List of New Bills of Interest

February 26 through Filing Deadline

This table shows selected new bills filed in the 2018 General Assembly. The list is organized by topics, as follows:

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How to use: To jump to a topic, click on the links above. To see the Legislative Research Commission summary of a bill and check its status, click the bill number.

To see the text of the bill and amendments, click the links in the summary. For a complete list of bills, view the legislature's own website: www.lrc.ky.gov.

This chart was compiled by Kentucky Equal Justice Center. For more information, or to share comments on a bill, contact Rich Seckel at richseckel@kyequaljustice.org.

Topic	Bill #	Sponsor	Summary
Access	HB 472	Morgan	Constitutional amendment: extend term of district judges from four to six years; increase requirement of being a licensed attorney from two to four years
Access	HB 478	DeCesare	Delete requirement that local government give public notice through newspaper advertisement; replace with publication on government's website
Access	HB 500	Hatton	Limit enforceability of employment-related arbitration agreements in defense of sexual harassment claims; details
Access	HB 503	Hatton	Create 90-day statute of limitations for actions asserting that an attorney engaged in improper solicitation
Access	HB 515	Imes	Move venue from Franklin Circuit Court to county where events underlying enforcement actions occurred when appealing decisions of state agencies
Access	SB 229	Wilson	Constitutional amendment: forbid the application of foreign law if citizens' rights would be infringed upon
Budget	HB 536	Sims	Require KY Lottery to institute sports wagering at

			lottery retailers, horse racing tracks, and simulcast facilities; earmark funds for pensions
Budget	SB 241	McGarvey	Constitutional amendment: authorize casino gaming; fund oversight through licenses and taxes on gaming; earmark remaining funds to retirement systems
Civil Rights	HB 474	Richards	Allow in-person absentee voting at least 12 working days, including two Saturdays, before the Sunday prior to election day; details
Civil Rights	HB 492	Meeks	Require racial impact statements for bills changing crimes, levels of offenses, penalties, sentencing, parole, or probation; details
Civil Rights	SB 227	Neal	Permit voter preregistration at age 16; require county clerks to provide preregistration forms to certain secondary education institutions
Civil Rights	SB 230	Neal	Require racial impact statements for bills changing crimes, levels of offenses, penalties, sentencing, parole, or probation; details
Civil Rights	SB 264	Neal	Historical memorials: establish process for any entity that wants to relocate, remove, alter, change, preserve, or rename significant properties; details
Civil Rights	SB 265	Neal	Require secondary schools, at least once a year, to inform students and staff about voter registration forms and provide assistance with registration
Civil Rights	SB 266	Neal	Constitutional amendment: allow persons convicted of certain felonies the right to vote as provided by the General Assembly
Consumer	HB 475	Moore	Prohibit using caller ID or VOIP to transmit misleading caller ID information with intent to defraud; require restitution for financial harm; fines
Consumer	HB 514	Imes	Prohibit telephone solicitation using deceptive caller identification information
Consumer	HB 570	Rowland	Prohibit third-party claims against casualty insurer; change cause of action for unfair claims settlement practices acts by any person to only acts by insurer
Consumer	HB 580	St. Onge	Establish alcoholic beverages direct shipping license; prohibit shipping to dry counties; allow out of state distiller to ship spirits to Kentucky resident
Consumer	HB 601	Fischer	Authorize religious society to control disposition of decedent's body and make funeral, burial, and ceremonial arrangements if kin are not available
Consumer	SB 224	Girdler	Prohibit third-party claims against a casualty insurer for unfair claim settlement practices; limit to claims against insurer
Consumer	SB 225	West	Son of payday loans: create licensing for 12-month installment loans up to \$1500, 24% interest plus

			.07% fees per day (280% APR); database to enforce
Consumer	SB 244	West	Establish wine direct shipper license for wine manufacturers and retailers; permit licensees to ship to addresses located in dry and moist territories
Consumer	SB 248	McGarvey	Require free security freeze if protected person's security breached; allow freeze beyond 7 years; prohibit mandatory arbitration by reporting agency
Corrections	HB 466	Wells	Place financial responsibility for incarcerating inmate with fiscal court of county originating charge regardless of arresting county location
Corrections	HB 529	Petrie	Allow sentencing credits for life skills programs and evidence-based promising practices
Corrections	HB 600	Wuchner	Require Kentucky State Police to establish the child abuse offender registry as funding becomes available; details
Corrections	HB 612	DuPlessis	Provide that a vehicle used in a third or subsequent DUI offense may be forfeited to the state
Corrections	HCR 215	Meeks	Direct Division of Probation and Parole to determine best way to ensure that persons who violate conditions of probation or parole have it revoked
Corrections	SB 210	Seum	Increase penalties for possession of firearm in other crimes by convicted felon with prior conviction for illegal possession of firearms
Corrections	SB 240	Schroder	Make kidnapping and attempted kidnapping a violent offense with 85% service time
Corrections	SB 258	McGarvey	Specify that persons convicted of human trafficking or promoting it shall not be released on probation or parole until 85% of sentence is served
Criminal	HB 498	Harris	Prohibit possession of assault weapon by person under 21 unless they are a member of the Armed Forces or a law enforcement officer; penalties
Criminal	HB 502	G. Brown	Gun control: require background checks for private sales; prohibit bump stocks; require judges to consider prohibition in orders of protection; more
Criminal	HB 510	Benvenuti	Prohibit wearing a hood, mask, or disguise in public for purpose of concealing identity during the commission of a crime
Criminal	HB 602	Coursey	Prohibit sale or transfer of bump stock devices, trigger cranks, and other firearms designed to accelerate rate of fire; destroy after conviction
Criminal	SB 239	Hornback	Establish the crime of sexual activity with animals; allow court to seize animals involved in an alleged violation as a condition of bond

Criminal	SB 242	McGarvey	Specify circumstances under which criminal fleeing in the first degree is a Class C felony
Econ Dev	HB 557	Petrie	Economic development housekeeping: expand eligible projects to include headquarters and nonretail service and technology projects; more
Econ Dev	SB 203	Wise	Suspend requirement for General Assembly approval for public-private partnership projects; allow discussion after public notice has been given
Econ Dev	SB 226	Neal	Incorporate new preference criteria for small businesses located in historically underutilized business zones for state contracting assistance
Education	HB 526	Donohue	Require public aggregate school report cards to report required components by “English language learner” along with other demographics
Education	HB 535	Moser	Allow KEES funds to be used for qualified workforce training programs in top five high demand work sectors
Education	HB 538	Palumbo	Require a mental health screening for students in conjunction with immunizations required for elementary, middle, and high school
Education	HB 554	Gooch	School safety: require schools without school resource or security officer to implement emergency response team; allow team members to carry firearms
Education	HB 568	Kay	Establish a Kentucky Community and Technical College System special license plate; set fees; earmark funds for scholarships
Education	HB 574	Harris	Require parents to attest that home-schooled student received 1,062 hours of instruction and to submit a portfolio of student work to KDE; more
Education	HB 595	Carney	Provide merger process for contiguous school districts; require insolvent district to be merged with contiguous school district
Education	HB 604	Coursey	Require schools to employ 1+ mental health professional for every 1,500 students; require DOE toolkit on developing a trauma-informed approach
Education	HB 611	Moser	Allow KY public universities to offer vocational-technical-occupational programs below associate degree level in top 5 high-demand sectors; details
Education	SB 228	McGarvey	Allow student-athletes and schools to bring action for damages against athlete agent if student is denied college sports eligibility or suffers financial damage
Education	SB 231	Wilson	Create Work Ready Scholarship program for studies that lead to industry-recognized certificate or diploma in top 5 high-demand workforce sectors
Education	SB 237	Schroder	Require colleges to ensure freedom of speech and

			expression by students and faculty; create cause of action with damages up to \$100,000, costs and fees
Education	SB 254	Parrett	Require KY Board of Education to withhold add-on funds from districts that fail to appropriately operate special education programs; details
Education	SB 267	Adams	Permit local board of ed in district with student minority population of 50%+ to appoint 3 at-large members to superintendent screening committee
Education	SB 270	West	Dyslexia: require DoE to make available a dyslexia toolkit; require each local board to develop policies for assisting students; more
Education	SB 271	West	Create a dyslexia trust fund to finance grants to school districts; create a Dyslexia Ready to Read special license plate and earmark proceeds to fund
Education	HB 552	DeCesare	Move KY Adult Education Program and Foundation for Adult Education from Council on Postsecondary Education to Workforce Development Cabinet
Employment	HB 465	Koenig	Reorganization: rework Public Protection Cabinet oversight of state occupational boards; provide for licensing, disciplinary action and appeals; more
Employment	HB 467	Wells	Eliminate waiting week for all employees eligible for unemployment insurance
Employment	HB 471	DeCesare	Set guidelines for awarding public works project contracts; bar public agencies from requiring or prohibiting bidder adherence with union agreements
Employment	HB 479	Gentry	Declare a tax credit for small businesses that have apprenticeship programs; require reporting by Department of Revenue
Employment	HB 512	Blanton	Require officers hired with high school diploma or GED to complete 60 hours of credit or an associate's degree prior to the end of probation
Employment	HB 518	Cantrell	End termination at will: make the termination of employment without cause unlawful; establish amount recoverable for wrongful discharge; more
Employment	HB 539	Riley	KRS changes: increase contribution rates for teachers (TRS); separate board for County Employees (CERS) from KRS; more
Employment	HB 540	Pratt	Create earn and learn tax credit of up to 25% of costs or \$1500 incurred by company for tuition or up to 50% or \$2000 for recovery expenses; details
Employment	HB 541	Pratt	Create individual tax credit for KY residents employed in high-skill, high-demand industry sector jobs not to exceed \$1,500 for each eligible position
Employment	HB 547	Sinnette	Freeze employer contribution rates for KERS, CERS, and State Police Retirement System for 2018-2020

			biennium at the levels payable in FY 2017-2018
Employment	HB 551	Wayne	Require state retirement systems to follow state Model Procurement Code when contracting for investment management services; more
Employment	HB 553	DeCesare	Eliminate merit system for state employees; abolish Personnel Board
Employment	HB 577	Kay	Specify that a board of education must comply with ADA in placing a teacher or superintendent on leave due to disability
Employment	HB 588	Belcher	Require Board of Education to identify as career ready Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps students; specify requisite scores and certificates
Employment	HB 610	Belcher	Provide process for Legislative Research Commission staff to file a complaint for sexual harassment with Legislative Ethics Commission
Employment	HCR 200	Marzian	Create a Task Force on Sexual Harassment to study and develop policies to address the issue of sexual harassment as it affects General Assembly
Employment	HR 213	Jenkins	Designate March of each year as "Sexual Harassment Awareness Month" in Kentucky
Environment	SB 249	Carpenter	Oil and gas hearings: provide petition and notice requirements for hearings related to drilling near coal-bearing strata; more
Family	HB 499	Sims	Update amounts outlined in child support table; eliminate \$60 obligation at \$0 income; extend table to \$20,000
Family	HB 517	McCoy	Create presumption that grandparent visitation is in child's best interest when parent who is the child of the grandparent is deceased; details
Family	HB 527	Riley	Direct DCBS to place foster child within school district where child was enrolled immediately prior to placement if practicable; require transportation
Family	HB 528	Petrie	Create presumption that joint custody and equal parenting time are in the best interest of the child; details
Family	HB 544	Jenkins	Allow petition for 1-year extreme risk protective order when respondent poses significant danger through possessing a firearm; details
Family	HB 549	Cantrell	Establish that blindness of a parent is not a reason to restrict custody or parenting time; more
Family	HB 561	Upchurch	Make the fee for court-appointed counsel in DNA cases same in District Court as Family Court

Family	HB 564	Huff	Permit family child-care homes to group children birth to 24 months and children 12 to 36 months together in a defined area unique to the group
Family	SB 204	Kerr	Provide taxpayers the option to donate to Kentucky CASA network fund from individual income tax refund
Family	SB 256	Westerfield	Adoption: specify relatives not needing secretary's approval; align placement options with Interstate Compact; limit fees for appointed counsel; more
Government	HB 548	Kay	Establish bi-partisan Legislative Advisory Reapportionment and Redistricting Commission; require submission of proposals to General Assembly
Government	HB 571	Marzian	Constitutional amendment: abolish General Assembly; vest all legislative power in ALEC, Koch Brothers, and U.S. and KY Chamber of Commerce
Government	HB 579	Meade	Allow electronic poll books to be utilized in lieu of precinct lists to review voter registration and record electronic signature of voter; effective May 2019
Government	HB 581	DuPlessis	Require Interim Local Government Committee to realign the 15 ADDs into no more than 12; specify funding distribution formula; details
Government	SB 233	Stivers	Give Governor authority to appoint members to boards and commissions when entities charged with submitting names fail to do so
Health	HB 473	Fischer	Constitutional amendment: state that Constitution does not create a right to abortion; give legislature authority to protect life from conception
Health	HB 493	Elliott	Require health plan, Medicaid coverage for infertility diagnosis and treatment; prohibit denying coverage for services that may result in infertility; more
Health	HB 497	Elliott	Include physician assistants in the definition of "qualified mental health professional" for purposes of involuntary hospitalization
Health	HB 506	Prunty	Require medical insurer that fails to pay claims timely to pay interest and be subject to liability for damages caused by delay; more
Health	HB 509	Benvenuti	Allow pharmacy outside KY to sell or distribute dialysate, drugs, or devices for home peritoneal kidney dialysis for end-stage patient; details
Health	HB 555	Petrie	Surgical assistants: provide for temporary certification and cancellation of temporary certification
Health	HB 573	Nelson	Require staff-to-resident ratios in long-term care facilities as a condition of licensure; establish minimum staffing requirements; details
Health	HB 576	Overly	Prohibit insurer from denying coverage for

			emergency services in a review based on the final diagnosis of the insured
Health	HB 582	Moser	Prohibit insurer from denying coverage for emergency services in a concurrent or retrospective review based on final diagnosis
Health	HCR 209	Wuchner	Recognize the importance of perinatal palliative care and neonatal palliative and hospice care
Health	HR 216	Wuchner	Recognize Kentucky dentists and oral surgeons for their efforts to reduce adolescent opioid use in current crisis
Health	SB 238	Harper Angel	Require training on awareness of sexual violence for physicians, physician assistants, nurses, and emergency medical technicians
Health	SB 235	Buford	Surprise billing: require insurer to cover non-emergency services provided by non-participating provider at in-network facility at in-network rate
Health	SB 236	Girdler	Surprise billing: require insurer to cover non-emergency services provided by non-participating provider at in-network facility at in-network rate
Health	SB 250	Adams	Establish that all pregnant women be tested for hepatitis C; recommend testing for children born from a pregnant woman with positive hepatitis C test
Health	SB 251	Adams	Establish CHFS task force on how to provide care for Kentuckians who are medically complex and have neurological behavioral disorders; details
Health	SB 259	Alvarado	Allow provider to appeal multiple claims in a single external review; allow a single administrative hearing to be held to appeal
Health	SB 260	Alvarado	Add requirements for Collaborative Agreement for the APRN Prescriptive Authority for Controlled Substances (CAPA-CS)
Health	SB 261	Humphries	Air ambulance: require insurer to hold insured harmless for charges; prohibit provider from reporting debt; set exemptions from judgment
Health	SB 263	Neal	Require health care providers to make referrals for hepatitis C screening testing as part of patients' annual medical exam; details
Health	SB 272	McGarvey	Medical marijuana: allow patient to possess 2.5 ounces; establish requirements for dispensaries and cultivation; establish a medical purpose defense
Housing	HB 494	Elliott	Establish simplified method for elderly adults to petition for an order to prevent trespassing; clarify abuse of an adult and establish penalties; more
Housing	HB 501	Keene	Permit local government to allow advertising devices to be placed on any side of a building located in an

			urban area under its jurisdiction; exemptions
Housing	HB 550	Cantrell	Apply Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act on a statewide basis; eliminate local government option to enact it locally
Housing	HB 556	Petrie	Increase state real property tax rate by 2.6 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation; require special purpose entity to pay PVA for use of assessment
Housing	HB 589	Rothenburger	Establish state affordable housing tax credit for qualifying project for seniors or veterans or offering supportive housing of up to 50% of federal credit
Housing	SB 207	Meredith	Building code violations: allow a court award to include reasonable attorney's fees only if a certificate of occupancy has not been issued
Housing	SB 247	McGarvey	Authorize consolidated local government to include a district board of education in its property tax moratorium program for distressed properties
Housing	SB 269	Neal	Tax incentives for brownfields redevelopment: establish a percentage credit instead of a capped-sum credit
Taxes	HB 490	Sinnette	Allow home rule class city to levy a restaurant tax and use proceeds to defray County Employee Retirement System contributions
Taxes	HB 519	St. Onge	Exclude payroll from qualifying film industry tax credits effective 1/1/18
Taxes	HB 520	St. Onge	Exempt charitable gaming supplies and equipment from sales and use tax; sunset in 2022
Taxes	HB 521	St. Onge	Exempt property used in deployment of advanced broadband technologies from state and local ad valorem tax for period 1/1/18 2018 to 12/31/21
Taxes	HB 542	Couch	Distribute 100% of coal severance revenues among coal-producing counties based on the tax collected on coal severed or processed
Taxes	HB 569	Sinnette	Increase sales and use tax rates to 7% effective October 1, 2018; eliminate exemptions for sales of fuel, semi-trailers, trailers, medical supplies
Taxes	HB 585	Couch	Tax expenditures: set rate for real property at 12.7 cents per \$100 assessed value, raise 4% cap to 5%; equalize alcoholic beverage tax; limit various credits
Taxes	HB 599	Petrie	KS style: Lower individual income tax rate brackets; eliminate personal credits; increase sales and use tax to 8%; include 50% of home sale gains in AGI; more
Taxes	HB 609	Santoro	Transportation funding: raise car registration fee to \$22; raise supplemental gasoline tax to \$.085 gallon; impose \$50 to \$150 base fee on hybrids/electric cars

Taxes	SB 205	McDaniel	Exempt from sales and use tax tangible personal property purchased under a construction contract with federal, state, or local government, or nonprofit
Transportation	HB 504	Hatton	Raise minimum required amounts of car insurance to \$50,000 for bodily injury, \$100,00 for bodily injury of all injured parties, \$50,000 for property damage
Transportation	HB 505	Hatton	Require every insurer to provide underinsured motorist coverage; provide that insured may reject underinsured motorist coverage in writing
Transportation	HB 563	Prunty	Allow trucks to carry agricultural products, livestock, and forest products at weights up to 80,000 pounds on county roads (same as state highways)
Transportation	HB 516	Mayfield	Increase penalties for texting or emailing on cell phone while driving to \$100 for first offense (or traffic school), \$200 for second
Transportation	HB 530	Santoro	Change expiration date for personalized license plates from December 31 to last day of applicant's birth month to match expiration of regular plates
Transportation	HB 558	Mills	Require Transportation to notify holders of driver's licenses, permits, and personal ID cards 45 days prior to expiration; allow notice by electronic mail
Transportation	HB 587	Prunty	Require all automobile liability insurance policies to cover bodily injury and property damage caused by uninsured motor vehicles at no additional cost; more
Transportation	HB 605	Moser	Require vision testing for operator's license renewal; exempt applicants who submit a vision testing form completed by specified medical professionals
Transportation	HB 606	Santoro	Create \$50 retesting fee for commercial driver's license applicants who fail to give 48-hour notice of cancellation; exempt military from testing fees
Transportation	SB 255	Westerfield	Ignition interlock: allow any person charged with DUI or who refused a breath, blood, or urine test to apply for an ignition interlock license
Utilities	HB 488	Sinnette	Require electric utility to notify property owner before trimming trees; require written consent for removing more than 25% of tree canopy; more
Utilities	HB 507	Harris	Require PSC to include affordability as criterion for utility rates; set fixed costs for metering, billing, service connections, and customer service; more
Utilities	HB 511	Hart	Make water fluoridation programs administered by CHFS optional; allow local governments to eliminate programs by local ordinance or order
Utilities	HB 513	Tipton	Allow Energy Cabinet to regulate private wastewater treatment plants; require insurance and financial assurance measures, proper maintenance; more
Utilities	HB 546	Sinnette	Allow cities to deny utility franchisees ability to

			recover franchise fee from ratepayers by adding a fee or surcharge to bill
Utilities	HB 559	Linder	Specify that Lifeline providers are not liable for postpaid or prepaid CMRS service charges or collecting or remitting Lifeline service charges
Utilities	SB 223	Girdler	Allow 2 years of continuous maintenance by KY Communications Network Authority on communications lines to ripen into easement; more
Utilities	SB 232	Webb	Require utilities seeking to install smart meters to give notice to customers and right to opt out of having smart meter installed on customer's premises
Utilities	SR 254	Girdler	Request due diligence and environmentally sound practices in any future repurposing of an existing natural gas pipeline
Veterans	HB 491	Sinnette	Exclude United States uniformed services retirees' pension income and survivor benefits from income taxation
Veterans	HB 586	Tipton	Extend validity of teaching certificate of Armed Forces member for each year member was prohibited by service from pursuing an advanced degree
Veterans	HB 590	Carney	Require 6+ years honorable service for a veteran to get certification through Education Professional Standards Board alternative certification program