

2015 General Assembly

Family Law Bills of Interest

Through Final Filing Day February 23

This table shows selected family law and related bills filed in the 2015 General Assembly. It includes measures that would affect low-income people and communities and some that simply figure prominently in this year's legislative debates. It is organized by topic.

An asterisk * indicates that a bill passed.

How to use the electronic version: 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.

Criminal	HB 515	Overly	Human trafficking: remove being mistaken about a minor's age as a defense to prosecution for trafficking through commercial sexual activity
Criminal	SJR 20 *	Harper Angel	Direct the Auditor of Public Accounts to study the number of sexual assault examination kits that have not been sent to the forensic laboratory for testing
Education	SB 119 *	Adams	Require DOE to develop child abuse and neglect prevention, recognition, and reporting training for school personnel; require districts to adopt
Employment	HB 218	Jenkins	Make an unlawful practice for employers who fail to accommodate an employee affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition; details
Family	HB 8 *	Tilley	Allow persons to petition for protective orders due to domestic violence and abuse, dating violence and abuse, sexual assault, or stalking; details
Family	HB 15	Kerr	Grant visitation to grandparents if it is in the child's best interest based on listed factors; require clear and convincing evidence
Family	HB 30	King	Require CHFS to notify school in which a child in its custody is enrolled of persons authorized to contact the child or remove the child from school grounds
Family	HB 64	Crimm	Allow local foster care review boards access to the educational records; require DJJ to offer plan to court re transition to independent living

Family	HB 73	Denham	Make strangulation Class A misdemeanor or, with aggravating circumstances, a Class D felony; include offense in determining substantial violation of DVO
Family	HB 94	Osborne	Create a presumption of joint custody in temporary custody orders; have prior parental custody agreements become the court's orders
Family	HB 95	Kerr	Allow expungement of dismissed emergency protective orders
Family	HB 104 *	Kerr	Trusts and estates: provide that a claim for breach of trust must be brought within 5 years of the act constituting breach; more
Family	HB 109	Tilley	Establish the offense of criminal GPS tracking as a Class A misdemeanor
Family	HB 127	Tilley	Require marriage certificate to include name of county judge/executive who issued it in the absence or vacancy of the county clerk
Family	HB 188	Greer	Require unannounced visits to place where reported abuse, neglect or human trafficking of child occurred until welfare of child has been safeguarded
Family	HB 216	Jenkins	Allow a court to direct the care, custody or control of pets in domestic violence orders
Family	HB 234 *	Graham	Establish schedule for implementing a quality-based graduated early care and education program rating system for providers; details
Family	HB 257	Owens	Harassing communications: expand acts that are a violation of offense; expand covered means of communication; increase penalties; details
Family	HB 269	Koenig	Include stalking as grounds for the issuance of a DVO; include electronic communications in definition of harassing communications
Family	HB 316 *	Burch	Establish \$30 fee for perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse, sex crimes, and stalking; earmark funds for address protection program; details
Family	HB 350	G. Watkins	Prohibit using a booking photograph for a commercial purpose if posted in a publication or on a Web site and removal requires the payment of a fee
Family	HB 429 *	Tilley	Establish the Kentucky Child Care Advisory Council; establish membership and duties; require an annual report

Family	HB 432	Pullin	Increase marriage license fee by \$20; earmark funding to spouse abuse shelters, rape crisis shelters and children's advocacy centers
Family	HB 439	Denham	Include strangulation as offense considered by court in deciding whether a person has committed a substantial violation of a domestic violence order
Family	HB 441	Meade	Adoption: establish putative father registry; redefine time when consent to adoption becomes final; require party requesting paternity test to pay for test; more
Family	HB 460	Denham	Create a trust to be used to establish accounts for the benefit of disabled persons as a companion to the federal ABLA Account legislation
Family	HB 462	Riggs	Require licensed child-care centers to be tested for radon at least once every 5 years as part of initial licensure and renewal; require posting of results
Family	HB 542	Jenkins	Allow sentence enhancement for assault in the fourth degree of a family member or a member of an unmarried couple
Family	HCR 176	Burch	Create Guardianship, Custodianship, Civil Commitment and Mental Competency Task Force to consider changes to policies, programs and statutes
Family	SB 30	McGarvey	Make strangulation a Class A misdemeanor or with aggravating circumstances a Class D felony; include offense in determining substantial violation of DVO
Family	SB 42	Harris	Create presumption of joint custody in temporary custody orders; have prior parental custody agreements become the court's orders
Family	SB 50	Westerfield	Establish conditions for adjusting child support award under guidelines table on the basis of a shared parenting order for physical custody
Family	SB 85	Alvarado	Provide permanent restraining order for victims of sex offenses to proceed automatically upon a conviction or plea of guilty for a violation; details
Family	SB 98	Westerfield	Establish new amounts in the child support guidelines table and delete the old amounts; lower minimum from \$60 to \$25
Family	SB 99	Adams	Request Supreme Court to establish pilot project to permit participating courts to make specified juvenile proceedings presumptively open to public; details
Family	SB 108 *	McGarvey	Adopt with some variation the 2008 amendments to the language of the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act; details

Family	SB 137	Girdler	Domestic violence: require 12 hour hold prior to release on bail for perpetrators if pretrial assessment indicates risk of future harm to the victim
Family	SB 140 *	Adams	Require that interested parties be notified of review by a citizen foster care review board and of the right to attend and participate
Family	SB 177	Westerfield	Adoption: establish putative father registry; redefine time when consent to adoption becomes final; require party requesting paternity test to pay for test; more
Family	SB 181	Webb	Dependency, abuse, neglect: clarify that persons investigated retain their constitutional rights; require provision of information form; details
Family	SB 182	Adams	Child abuse: establish new juvenile proceeding definitions, requirements and fees for court appointed attorneys; more
Family	SB 188	Schroder	Create a trust to be used to establish accounts for the benefit of disabled persons as a companion to the federal ABLE Account legislation
Family	SB 197	Westerfield	Clarify the process for recording court orders relating to name changes by the county clerk
Housing	HB 405	Jenkins	Allow residential tenants who hold a DVO to terminate a lease with at least 30 days notice; allow landlord to recover from abuser; more