

2015 General Assembly

New Bills of Interest

Final House Bills through February 23

This table shows selected new bills filed in the 2015 General Assembly on the last day of filing in the House of Representatives. The Senate deadline had already passed and final Senate bills were included in our last report. This list is organized by topics, as follows:

[Budget](#)

[Consumer](#)

[Corrections](#)

[Criminal](#)

[Econ Dev](#)

[Education](#)

[Employment](#)

[Environment](#)

[Family](#)

[Government](#)

[Health](#)

[Housing](#)

[Taxes](#)

[Transportation](#)

[Utilities](#)

[Veterans](#)

How to use: To jump to a topic, click 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
Budget	HB 510	Rand	Amend budget to adjust Phase I Tobacco Settlement provisions, Master Settlement Agreement appropriations, and capital projects budget
Consumer	HB 480	Steele	Establish licensing system for powersport vehicle dealers; include transactions under installment sales contract provisions; more
Consumer	HB 483	Mayfield	Require paper and electronic copies of pawnbroker registry; allow police to examine the register and books of a pawnshop
Consumer	HB 487	Pullin	Prohibit motor vehicle insurer from using credit ratings for persons 65 and older if there will be an increase in premium for the insured
Corrections	HB 541	Jenkins	Allow sentencing court to require a convicted person to pay the costs of his or her extradition to the Commonwealth to stand trial
Criminal	HB 489	G. Watkins	Expand "truth-in-sentencing" to all criminal cases before a jury; allow sentencing juries in misdemeanor trials to see all prior convictions
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
Econ Dev	HB 484	Combs	New markets tax credit “housekeeping:” reduce investment in single low-income community business from \$10 million to \$5 million; more
Education	HB 498	Graham	Achievement gap: require a targeted focus school to undergo an audit and implement an internal innovation plan; details
Education	HB 499	Graham	Require chief state school officer to prepare estimates for district fund allotment and incremental schedule for disbursement, revisions and equalization
Education	HB 540	DeCesare	Allow a local board to assign a classified employee to supervise a study hall to which students who exhibit unacceptable conduct have been assigned
Employment	HB 475	DeCesare	Create Kentucky Workforce Investment Board; set forth duties; require audits of local boards by Auditor of Public Accounts every four years; details
Employment	HB 477	Donohue	Require contracts for public capital construction projects to include new provisions for welders regarding certification and inspection
Employment	HB 478	Nelson	Require the Kentucky Community and Technical College System to publish a listing of the 100 highest-paid system employees
Employment	HB 479	Nelson	Revise wage and hour statute on payment after leaving employment to be gender neutral
Employment	HB 481	Fisher	Require Kentucky Retirement Systems to issue benefit payments to a spouse or former spouse of employees in a lump sum refund, if requested
Employment	HB 493	Moffett	Prohibit salary earned in another state-administered system from being used to determine benefits in the Legislators’ Retirement Plan
Employment	HB 494	Moffett	Require state pension systems to disclose on request names, status, projected or actual benefit payments and other retirement information of members
Employment	HB 495	Moffett	Allow legislators to make one-time irrevocable election to not participate in Legislators’ Retirement Plan or Kentucky Employees Retirement System
Employment	HB 500	Graham	Teacher’s Retirement “housekeeping:” update provisions re electronic management, spouses and beneficiaries, return to work after retirement; more
Employment	HB 506	Benvenuti	Require state pension systems to disclose on request names, status, projected or actual benefit payments and other retirement information of members
Employment	HB 518	Nelson	Revise wage and hour statute on payment after leaving employment to be gender neutral

Employment	HB 520	Graham	Add gender neutral language to teacher training statutes
Employment	HR 78	Schamore	Urge United States Department of Commerce to investigate unfair trade practices by certain foreign exporters of paper products
Employment	HJR 122	Kay	Declare July 1, 2015, as State Employee Appreciation Day; require all three branches to observe the day by thanking their employees
Employment	HR 178	Pullin	Designate October 30, 2015, as a day of remembrance for Kentuckians who have worked as nuclear program workers
Environment	HB 490	Heath	Extend powers of Commonwealth for exercise of criminal law enforcement over lands of National Wildlife Refuge System located in Kentucky; details
Environment	HB 523	Kay	Establish nonrefundable income tax credit of 40% of qualified conservation contributions up to \$100,000, with KY Heritage Land Board to review applications
Environment	HB 543	Gooch	Delete provision allowing local ordinances that regulate surface mining operations
Environment	HCR 171	Couch	Require EPA to appear before a congressional committee before a reg is approved; call resolution the “Coal Job Savings Resolution”
Environment	HR 197	Hoover	Condemn the veto of the Keystone XL pipeline legislation by United States President Barack Obama
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
Government	HB 485	Westrom	Create Department for Oversight and Compliance to monitor workforce investment areas and area development districts; details
Government	HB 507	Lee	Require state depositories to have their principal office in Kentucky
Health	HB 476	Glenn	Require the Department for Public Health to establish, promote and maintain a statewide e-cigarette education and awareness program
Health	HB 482	Burch	Reorganization: establish the Office of the Kentucky Health Benefit and Health Information Exchange to administer ACA; more
Health	HB 491	Meade	Define fair market value for Medicaid eligibility to

			mean PVA value, appraised value or price sold at public auction; details
Health	HB 538	Greer	Heroin: require an insurer to coverage abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic drug products as preferred drugs on its formulary; details
Health	HB 546	Moore	Authorize purchase of health benefit plans across state lines; allow terms based on purchaser's needs without regard to state-mandated benefits
Health	HB 547	Moore	Anti-ACA: prohibit the General Assembly from requiring any individual to participate in any health care system or plan; more
Health	HJR 149	Glenn	Direct Cabinet for Health and Family Services to conduct a study of e-cigarette usage and effects in the Commonwealth
Housing	HB 502	Palumbo	Establish licensure and apprentice registration requirements for locksmiths; details
Housing	HB 531	Riggs	Planned communities: create definitions; set minimum content for planned community bylaws; more
Taxes	HB 492	Adkins	Library tax rates: grandfather rates through effective date; require public hearing if proposals exceed compensatory rate (1/10 of 1%); more re recall
Taxes	HB 504	Richards	Require economic and revenue agencies to review application for tax increment financing (TIF) agreements within 60 days; more
Transportation	HB 516	Overly	Allow Transportation Cabinet to issue regulations identifying individuals who must submit to a skills test prior to being issued an operator's license
Utilities	HCR 168	Gooch	Create Federal Environmental Regulation Impact Assessment Task Force to study effect of federal regulations on affordability of electricity
Veterans	HB 473	Coursey	Require Department of Education to develop a military-connected student identifier in the student information system
Veterans	HB 497	Schamore	Provide for a disabled veteran-owned business certification program; details

Through

HB 548
HR 200