

2016 General Assembly

Top Bills

Through January 21

This table shows selected bills filed in the 2016 General Assembly. It includes measures that could affect low-income people and the practice of civil legal services, plus bills that figure prominently in this year's legislative debates. The list is organized by topics, as follows:

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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
Access	SB 6	Alvarado	Medical Review Panels: establish system for use in civil litigation relating to health care providers
Budget	SB 72	McDaniel	Clarify the process for interim appropriation increases relating to restricted funds and federal funds
Civil Rights	HB 14	Wuchner	Exempt persons, officials, and institutions with religious objections to same-sex marriages from any requirement to solemnize them
Civil Rights	HB 31	Hale	Move marriage licensing and recording duties from county clerks to state registrar of vital statistics; more re exemption from solemnizing same-sex marriage
Civil Rights	HB 155	Marzian	Prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in labor and employment practices, places of public accommodation; more
Civil Rights	HB 156	Marzian	Constitutional amendment: repeal Section 233A of the Constitution of Kentucky relating to marriage; submit to voters
Civil Rights	HB 211	Meredith	Create two equally valid marriage license forms, available to all applicants at their discretion, which

			list the parties as husband and wife or as spouses
Civil Rights	SB 5	West	Marriage license: remove requirement that license be signed by issuing county or deputy clerk; provide that the form allow for name and title of issuing official
Consumer	HB 119	Overly	Require credit reporting agency to place security freeze on record of incapacitated or underage person on request by representative; create cause of action
Consumer	HB 165	Collins	Increase threshold from \$1,000 to \$2,500 for sellers' and dealers' obligation to disclose accident damage to a motor vehicle
Consumer	HB 185	Yonts	Provide process for insurance companies to obtain salvage titles; allow for the disposal of voluntarily towed abandoned vehicles
Consumer	HB 252	Meredith	Allow insurance agent to be paid for arranging insurance premium financing if agent discloses source and amount of payment in writing; more
Consumer	HB 256	Meeks	Allow free expungement through AOC when victim of identity theft has been erroneously charged with a criminal offense; allow recovery of insurance costs
Consumer	HB 285	Stewart	Self-storage: replace lien process; consider property abandoned and allow sale after 45 day notice; allow occupant to cure by paying claims within 45 days
Consumer	SB 23	Alvarado	Require credit reporting agency to place security freeze on record of person under 16 or incapacitated on request by representative; create cause of action
Consumer	SB 32	Parrett	Create Kentucky Financial Literacy Program; require high school students to complete instruction in financial literacy prior to graduation
Consumer	SB 58	Harris	Automobile service contract insurance: define terms; require provider to have reimbursement insurance policy; more
Consumer	SB 74	Robinson	Allow motor vehicle security interest termination statements to be submitted by fax; hold county clerks harmless for fraudulent statements
Consumer	SB 101	Kerr	Payday loans: limit APR to 36%; apply UDAP remedies under Consumer Protection Act; allow cause of action for 2x interest paid if limit exceeded
Consumer	SB 120	Buford	Delete standards of conduct for bank officers; apply standards for officers of private corporations (liability only for willful, wanton or reckless misconduct)
Corrections	HB 40	Owens	Expungement: expand scope of motion to include felonies referred to a grand jury where no indictment ensues; allow for certain Class D felonies; more
Corrections	HB 203	Floyd	Abolish the death penalty and replace it with life imprisonment without parole for inmates presently sentenced to death; details

Corrections	SB 41	Neal	Abolish the death penalty and replace it with life imprisonment without parole for inmates presently sentenced to death; details
Corrections	SB 77	Neal	Re-entry: allow a felony record to be expunged under specified circumstances; consider passage of time since offense in licensure decisions; more
Criminal	HB 109	Jenkins	Create mechanism for charging a person with commission of offense against vulnerable victim in a continuous course of conduct
Criminal	HB 141	Denham	Create the new crimes of strangulation in the first degree as a Class C felony, and strangulation in the second degree as a Class D felony
Criminal	HB 162	Koenig	Include electronic communications within the definition of harassing communications
Criminal	HB 191	Meeks	Provide for collection of DNA samples at arrest or initial appearance from all persons charged with a felony offense; details
Criminal	HB 229	Overly	Grant the Attorney General concurrent jurisdiction in human trafficking investigations and prosecutions
Criminal	HB 250	Palumbo	Remove requirement for officer to issue citation in lieu of arrest for most misdemeanors committed in presence; address use of false license or ID
Criminal	SB 55	Thomas	Add deaths during arrest to cases which are investigated by coroner; require an annual public report; details
Criminal	SB 60	Westerfield	Create a mechanism for charging person with commission of an offense against vulnerable victim in a continuous course of conduct
Criminal	SB 63	Harper Angel	Require law enforcement agencies to have approved policies on disposition of sexual assault evidence collection kits; set processing timelines
Education	HB 39	Stone	Provide tuition waiver to students at public post-2ndary school if their biological parents are deceased or have had their parental rights terminated; details
Education	HB 92	Clark	Allow a waiver or modification of the statewide assessment system for schools participating in a district of innovation plan under specific conditions
Education	SB 1	Wilson	Education reform: implement process for reviewing academic standards and assessments; prohibit norm-referenced exams as a measure of academic growth
Education	SB 15	Robinson	Permit students to voluntarily express religious or political viewpoints in school assignments free from discrimination; details
Education	SB 29	Jones	Permit age-appropriate education programs on

			recognition of child physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect and how to report
Education	SB 35	Schickel	School principals and superintendents: require the principal or a designee to develop and implement a wellness policy; more
Education	SB 42	Thomas	Provide programs for an exceptional child until end of student instructional year in which the child reaches the age of 22
Education	SB 65	Thomas	Require appointment of school equity council member to superintendent screening committee, if council exists; allow board to add high school student
Education	SB 81	Westerfield	Require Department of Education to develop military-connected student identifier in student information system
Education	SB 107	Givens	Computer science programs in public schools: allow science and math advancement fund to provide grants to school districts for programs; more
Employment	HB 1	Stumbo	Authorize KY Asset/Liability Commission to issue bonds to finance pension fund obligations of KY Teachers' Retirement System, up to \$3.3B; details
Employment	HB 18	Jenkins	Make it an unlawful practice for employers to fail to accommodate an employee affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition; details
Employment	HB 49	Nelson	Welding safety: establish requirements for structural steel welding, including certification of welders and use of certified inspectors; definitions
Employment	HB 56	Dossett	Exempt from workers' comp coverage lawn services and maintenance, repair, remodeling, or similar work on a private home for less than 20 days
Employment	HB 150	Howard	UI: allow good cause to leave a job for move to follow a military spouse relocated more than 100 miles from job
Employment	HB 157	Owens	Prohibit employers from using job applicants' personal credit information in hiring decisions; provide civil penalty for violation; exceptions
Employment	HB 180	Brown	"Ban the box:" prohibit employers from considering or requiring disclosure of prior criminal history as part of initial job application
Employment	HB 278	Stumbo	Raise minimum wage to \$10.10 over three years; define "equivalent jobs" according to federal Equal Pay Act; prohibit wage discrimination; details
Employment	SB 2	Bowen	Retirement systems: require Kentucky and Teachers' retirement systems to disclose fees and contracts on Web site; eliminate placement agents; more
Employment	SB 3	Stivers	"Right to Work:" prohibit mandatory membership in or financial support of a labor organization as a

			condition of employment
Employment	SB 9	Schroeder	Exclude construction of educational facilities from definition of "public works" and from meeting requirements of the prevailing wage law
Employment	SB 94	McDaniel	Allow local governments and special purpose governmental entities to opt out of prevailing wage requirements for public works projects
Employment	SCR 75	Givens	Create Kentucky Workforce Oversight Task Force to study and develop recommendations on benefits, investments and funding of workforce education
Environment	HB 104	Gooch	Prohibit Energy Cabinet from publishing regs or imposing permit conditions to reduce carbon dioxide under federal rules without legislative approval
Environment	HB 152	Wayne	"Stream saver bill:" require coal mine permittees to dispose of overburden in specified areas; prohibit disposal in streams; more
Environment	HB 240	Floyd	Establish a pipeline spill response plan program within the Department for Environmental Protection; allow 45 day comment period on plans; details
Environment	SB 111	Webb	Prescribe requirements for transportation of municipal solid waste to prevent leaks; require study of hydrogen sulfide odors from landfills; details
Environment	SB119	Carpenter	Chemical munitions: require reclassification of residual wastes after treatment or destruction to ensure proper management and disposal; details
Family	HB 47	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 59	Burch	Address protection: require Secretary of State or designee to operate program; clarify that a sworn statement may be used to prove abuse or neglect
Family	HB 96	Burch	Require that counsel appointed for child or adult for temporary removal hearing must have been trained in domestic violence issues
Family	HB 129	Crimm	Expand grounds for TPR to include attempted or actual infliction of death or serious physical injury to child, parent, stepparent, guardian; details
Family	HB 140	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	SB 40	Adams	Request Supreme Court to establish pilot project to permit participating courts to make specified juvenile proceedings presumptively open to the public
Family	SB 99	Westerfield	Adoption: establish putative father registry; redefine time when consent to adoption becomes final; require party requesting paternity test to pay for test; more

Health	HB 42	Keene	Involuntary treatment: include substance use in definition of "mentally ill person" subject to treatment; ensure that 202A petition may be filed
Health	HB 94	Burch	Court-ordered outpatient mental health treatment: require court to appoint a case management team from community mental health center; more
Health	HB 100	Hoover	Require health plans that cover autism spectrum disorder treatment to provide a liaison to the insured
Health	HB 105	G. Watkins	Require that involuntarily hospitalized patients are ordered to receive community-based outpatient treatment for at least six months after discharge
Health	HB 115	Burch	Include eligible underinsured individuals in colon cancer screening program; develop schedule of income-based fees; more
Health	HB 118	Stumbo	Medicaid Managed Care: require 85% medical loss ratio; apply prompt payment laws to MCOs; provide for appeals through DOI; penalties and interest
Health	HB 148	Belcher	Permit licensed child-care centers and certified family child-care homes to meet the requirements to obtain epinephrine auto-injectors for emergency use
Health	HB 254	Jenkins	Require use of helmet by child under 12 riding or being passenger on a bicycle; establish penalty of \$25; earmark funds for trauma and brain injury care
Health	HB 257	Wuchner	Prohibit certain types of abortion; prohibit after 20 weeks of fetal development; classify placement of remains in landfill as offense of abuse of a corpse
Health	HB 282	Belcher	Prohibit health care providers from charging Medicare beneficiaries more than a reasonable charge for services as determined by HHHS
Health	HB 286	Flood	Abortion: allow private medical consultation required between pregnant woman and physician to occur through telehealth
Health	HCR 4	Meeks	Create Gun Safety and Violence Prevention Task Force to study public safety, public protection, and gun safety issues
Health	SB 4	Adams	Abortion: specify how the phrase "individual, private setting" shall be interpreted in informed consent situations
Health	SB 7	Wise	Provide that public funds shall not be paid to any entity or affiliate of an entity that provides abortion services; exceptions
Health	SB 20	Alvarado	Allow provider that has exhausted an internal appeals process of an MCO to have an administrative appeals hearing; establish mechanism for attorneys' fees
Health	SB 34	Thomas	Establish that a mother breast-feeding a child or

			expressing milk shall report violations of her right to do so to health department; details
Health	SB 57	Embry	Permit eligible patients with terminal illness to use investigational drugs, biological products, or devices; prohibit sanctions of health care providers
Health	SB 61	Westerfield	Extend the coverage of the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act to a fetus that was the subject of an induced abortion
Health	SB 78	Alvarado	Include eligible underinsured individuals in colon cancer screening program; develop schedule of income-based fees; EMERGENCY
Health	SB 85	Buford	Create KY Board of Midwifery; provide for licensure and administrative regulations on practice of midwifery; set forth informed consent requirements
Health	SB 108	D. Carroll	Prohibit individual under 18 from using a tanning device at a tanning facility; provide an exemption for medical use of phototherapy devices
Housing	HB 16	Simpson	Require recording of deeds and mortgages for properties in certain areas of Kenton County in Covington rather than Independence
Housing	HB 41	Jenkins	Allow residential tenants who hold a DVO or IPO to terminate a lease with at least 30 days notice; allow landlord to recover from abuser; more
Housing	HB 79	Wayne	Create refundable income tax credit for the costs of mitigating noise from a commercial airport for homeowners in second tier noise area
Housing	HB 166	Jenkins	Establish a simplified method to petition for an order to restrain other persons from trespassing onto the petitioner's residence
Housing	HB 168	Floyd	Constitutional amendment: vest power of eminent domain exclusively with government; name Act the Kentucky Landowner's Bill of Rights
Housing	HB 213	Floyd	Eminent domain: exclude natural gas liquids from definition of oil or gas or oil and gas products; require that condemnation be for "public use"
Housing	HB 280	Meade	Require buyer to record deed of real estate sold by master commissioner within 5 days; allow master commissioner to obtain title to abandoned vehicles
Housing	SB 97	Alvarado	Delete registration requirement for mortgage loan processors who are directed and supervised by mortgage loan originator; reduce continuing ed; more
Immigration	HB 169	Clark	Certificate for driving: allow for drivers 18 years or older who have lived in Kentucky for 3 years and who cannot prove citizenship; details
Immigration	HB 186	Yonts	Allow Kentucky to contract with another country for reciprocity in issuance of driver's licenses; allow non-

			citizen to obtain driver's license
Public Assistance	HB 62	Shell	Require substance abuse screening program for applicants and recipients of public assistance with felony or misdemeanor history of substance abuse
Public Assistance	HB 63	Shell	Establish a graduated earnings disregard program to incentivize public assistance recipients to seek employment
Public Assistance	HB 74	Glenn	Create trust to establish accounts for benefit of disabled persons as a companion to federal ABLE Account legislation; disregard for public benefits
Public Assistance	HB 197	Meade	Define "fair market value" for Medicaid eligibility as estimate of value of an asset if sold at prevailing price at the time it was actually transferred; more
Public Assistance	SB 70	Jones	Create trust to establish accounts for benefit of disabled persons as a companion to federal ABLE Account legislation; disregard for public benefits
Taxes	HB 23	Steele	Exempt unmined coal reserves from state and local property taxes if owner or lessee does not have a mining permit and does not plan to mine in tax year
Taxes	HB 86	Wayne	Tax reform: implement an earned income tax credit; implement throwback rule for income not taxed elsewhere; disallow tax haven transactions; more
Taxes	HB 93	Clark	Amend definition of "tobacco products" to include "electronic cigarettes" in tobacco taxation
Taxes	HB 195	Short	Establish a standard value of zero for unmined coal reserves not mined during the 10-year period preceding assessment date; exceptions
Taxes	HB 232	DeCesare	Constitutional Amendment: allow General Assembly to authorize cities to provide specific property tax exemptions for economic development
Transportation	HB 201	Belcher	Exempt transfers between siblings of motor vehicles previously registered in Kentucky from motor vehicle usage tax
Transportation	HB 218	Lee	Allow parent or legal guardian of a minor child or adult person with disabilities to apply for disabled parking plates
Transportation	HB 230	DeCesare	Extend eligibility for overweight permits for transportation of steel products or materials to aluminum products or materials
Transportation	HB 242	Coursey	Require indication of expiration date of disabled parking placard by month and year hole-punch; increase fines; earmark 75% to personal care program
Utilities	HB 98	Nelson	Place a cap on the amount that an electric utility can bill for a basic service charge

Utilities	HB 103	G. Watkins	Allow construction of nuclear power facility on or within 50 miles of site previously used for manufacture of nuclear products
Utilities	HB 108	Gooch	Permit municipal utilities to join together to buy and sell electricity and natural gas; specify elements of agreement to create municipal electric authority
Utilities	HB 291	Gooch	Prohibit utilities from recovering costs of complying with environmental requirements of Federal Clean Air Act until compliance is required; retroactive
Utilities	SB 79	Embry	Permit municipal utilities to join together to buy and sell electricity and natural gas; specify elements of agreement to create municipal electric authority
Utilities	SB 89	D. Carroll	Nuclear power: require that new facilities have a plan for storage of nuclear waste rather than means of permanent disposal; more
Veterans	HB 183	Webber	Provide for a disabled veteran-owned business certification program; details
Veterans	HB 225	Richards	Require issuance of professional licenses to service members or veterans if their military training provides the necessary experience and skills; details
Veterans	HB 276	Moore	Allow public universities to offer in-state tuition to members of any United States Reserve component
Veterans	HR 40	Short	Urge KY and federal agencies and officials to get approval and funding necessary for construction of a veterans center in Magoffin County
Veterans	SB 52	Wise	Allow a veteran with bachelor's degree in any area to be issued provisional teaching certificate if other criteria are met
Veterans	SB 92	Jones	Exempt veteran-owned businesses from paying filing fees to the Secretary of State's office for filing various business documents