

2012 General Assembly

Family Law Bills of Interest

Through Filing Deadline

This table shows selected bills on family law and related bills filed in the 2012 General Assembly. It includes measures that might affect low-income people and communities and some that simply figured prominently in this year's legislative debates. It is organized by topic.

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 to date, 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. KEJC worked on highlighted bills. Bills that passed are indicated by an * asterisk.

Employment	HB 350	Overly	Human trafficking: create victims fund; require asset forfeiture by offenders; create offense of theft of labor by force or threat; create civil cause of action
Criminal	HB 74	Belcher	Incest: include step-grandparent and step-grandchild within the prohibited relationships
Criminal	HB 129	Adams	Expand definition of harassing communications to include forms of electronic communication; increase penalties
Criminal	HB 345	Denham	Strangulation bill: include a loss of consciousness within the definition of "physical injury"
Criminal	HB 469	Sinnette	Modify definition of sex crime to include conspiracy and solicitation; add offenses to lifetime registration requirement
Criminal	HB 541	Sinnette	Create a new offense for serial abuse of a child; provide penalty
Criminal	SB 180	B. Smith	Rape and sodomy: raise statutory age of consent from sixteen to eighteen when perpetrator is in a position of authority or special trust
Criminal	SB 186	R. Jones	Create crime of endangering welfare of a minor in 1st degree for failing to report a missing child; require cabinet to investigate each abuse report; more

Family	HB 27	Henderson	Require parent or guardian to report to law enforcement or 911 within 12 hours after child under 12 has been discovered missing; penalty
Family	HB 29	Henley	Require parent to report to law enforcement or 911 within 12 hours after child under 8 has been discovered missing; require report of death; penalty
Family	HB 35	Crimm	Allow wage assignment and automatic electronic transfer of funds for payment of spousal maintenance
Family	HB 76	Owens	Define a child born out of wedlock to include a child born to a married woman by a man other than her husband
Family	HB 92	Belcher	Permit the inclusion of a minor child's name in a domestic relations proceeding
Family	HB 99	Belcher	Permit post-secondary tuition waivers for foster children enrolled in dual credit or dual enrollment courses in high school
Family	HB 155 *	Kerr	Trusts and estates: permit trustee to reallocate principal to income without court approval; permit trustee to deal with Medicare surtax issues; more
Family	HB 156 *	Kerr	Permit periodic settlement of informal estates
Family	HB 170	Keene	Require submission of a personal health history and other nonidentifying background information by parents in cases of adoptions
Family	HB 179	Bell	Allow a DVO to require that additional services be provided by CHFS to a child exposed to domestic violence; expand definition of “reasonable efforts”
Family	HB 186	Jenkins	Include dating partners who are 18 years of age or older among the class of persons allowed to obtain domestic violence protective orders
Family	HB 200	Westrom	Establish statewide child fatality and near fatality external review panel; make data on reports and investigations available to the public; details
Family	HB 233	Jenkins	Allow court to direct care, custody, or control of pets in domestic violence orders
Family	HB 234	Pullin	Permit change of name to be filed in Family Court or Circuit Court of a county without a Family Court if the court has a case involving the family before it
Family	HB 237	Westrom	Child protection: require CHFS to employ licensed social workers in casework services in foster care, child protection, juvenile services, or adult protection

Family	HB 239	Westrom	Request Supreme Court to create pilot project in each Supreme Court District for opening of abuse, neglect and dependency proceedings; more
Family	HB 242	Crimm	Allow foster care review boards access to educational records of children in custody; require DJJ to make recommendations to court re independent living
Family	HB 261	King	Require CHFS to notify school of child in custody of persons authorized to contact the child or remove the child from school grounds
Family	HB 264	Westrom	Separate definitions of “abused” and “neglected” child; require CHFS to participate in investigation of alleged abuse by family member or paramour
Family	HB 364	Yonts	Out of home child placement: conduct study of child welfare delivery; provide “gatekeeper” to assess level of care and conduct utilization review; more
Family	HB 456	York	Allow foster parents to have same right to attend court proceedings about foster child as parent or guardian
Family	HB 498	Tilley	Amend KRS 403.725, relating to domestic violence EPOs, to make gender-neutral
Family	HB 519 *	Nemes	Expand definition of an abused child to include a child who is sexually abused, exploited, or subjected to prostitution by any person
Family	HCR 38	Jenkins	Direct the Legislative Research Commission to create the Task Force on Children Exposed to and Affected by Domestic Violence; require report by 12/31/12
Family	HCR 185	Westrom	Urge CHFS to have continuing education program for social workers approved by Board of Social Work
Family	SB 33	Jones	Create crime of endangering welfare of minor in 1st degree when person caring for a minor 12 years of age or younger who is missing fails to report; details
Family	SB 36	Harper Angel	Require parent or guardian to report to law enforcement or 911 within 12 hours after child under 12 has been discovered missing; penalty
Family	SB 44	Harper Angel	Include persons in dating relationships within the coverage of Kentucky's domestic violence laws
Family	SB 57 *	Denton	Require Cabinet for Health and Family Services to provide on their Web site downloadable forms pertaining to divorces
Family	SB 93	Harper Angel	Require search for missing person with developmental disability to be reported immediately; provide for media notification; details

Family	SB 101	Kerr	Provide that person who leaves child 7 or less in a motor vehicle for longer than 5 minutes is guilty of wanton endangerment
Family	SB 126	Denton	Social worker licensing: exempt employees of tax-exempt organizations; more
Family	SB 139	Denton	Require establishment of state child fatality review team
Family	SB 140	Denton	Promote concept of 1-family-1-judge; require circuit clerk, during family division realignment, to maintain 1-family-1-judge relationship to extent possible
Family	SB 142	Wilson	Allow a DVO to require that additional services be provided by CHFS to a child exposed to domestic violence; expand definition of “reasonable efforts”
Family	SB 193	Westwood	Private child care facilities: index payment to inflation; establish language for assessments of child's level of care; more re planning and oversight
Family	SB 207	Denton	Prohibit schools from referring cases of irregular attendance to CPS unless abuse or neglect suspected; require rapid closure of unsubstantiated cases
Family	SB 213 *	Winters	Allow youth to choose, prior to age of 19, to extend or reinstate commitment to the cabinet to the age of 21 years old; establish duties of cabinet
Family	SB 214	Ridley	Require autopsy when minor dies to determine the cause of death and any contributing cause of death
Juvenile	HB 61	Flood	Status offenders: restrict secure detention; clarify contents necessary in dispositional reports; more
Juvenile	HB 143	Owens	Establish minimum age of criminal responsibility and provide alternative treatment
Juvenile	HB 475	Yonts	Status offenders: restrict secure detention of status offenders until after an adjudication hearing in which full due process is provided; more
Juvenile	HB 562	King	Voyeurism and video voyeurism: specify an alternative disposition where a defendant is a minor and the offense is a first offense
Juvenile	HCR 129 *	Tilley	Task Force on Unified Juvenile Code: study status offenses, community resources, alternatives to detention, age of criminal responsibility; more

Key * Bill passed
KEJC worked on bill