



March 18, 2022

Legislative Report No. 12 2022 Kentucky General Assembly

Today marked the fifty-first legislative day of the 2022 Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. With only nine legislative days left in this session, the legislature is currently scheduled to meet next week and then on March 29 and 30 before recessing for the ten-day veto period.

Kentucky Farm Bureau would like to thank everyone that attended our Legislative Drive-In/Food Check-Out Day activities on Wednesday. We had a great crowd in attendance, and it was good to see the halls of Frankfort filled with Farm Bureau leaders from across the state.

The state budget ([HB 1](#)) conference committee began meeting this week to work out the differences in the House and Senate budgets. Our funding priorities are currently included in both versions of the state budget.

Bills of interest:

[HB 315: B. Reed - AN ACT relating to broadband deployment, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring an emergency.](#)

This bill would establish the Office of Broadband Development within the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority and define the duties of the office. It would also deregulate Rural Electric Cooperatives to allow those co-ops currently regulated by the Public Service Commission to offer broadband service. Last evening, this bill passed the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee and today this bill passed the House with a vote of 85-0. This bill now heads to the Senate for their consideration.

2022 KFB Priority Issues:

“Support funding for the broadband deployment fund.”

“Support efforts and incentives to improve and provide all telecommunications in rural Kentucky.”

“Support broadband and high speed internet service being available for the benefit of all Kentuckians.”

[SB 121: D. Givens – AN ACT relating to agriculture exemption license numbers and declaring an emergency.](#)

This bill would require a person who has an agriculture exemption license number to provide it to the seller or retailer at the time of purchase and allow a retailer to accept an agriculture exemption license number instead of a certificate of exemption at the time of a sale. This bill passed the Senate on a vote of [36-0](#). On Wednesday, this bill passed the House with a vote of [96-0](#) that included an amendment that would increase the expiration deadline of the agricultural exemption number to December 31, 2026 and then every four years thereafter and also extended the application deadline until January 1, 2023. This bill now heads back to Senate for concurrence.

[HJR 41: A. Bowling – A JOINT RESOLUTION](#)

This resolution would direct the Department of Revenue and the University of Kentucky's Department of Forestry and Natural Resources to submit a report to the Legislative Research Commission no later than December 1, 2022, detailing their recommendations for equitable property tax assessment procedures for well-managed forests. On Monday, this resolution passed the House with a vote of [89-0](#) and has been assigned to the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee.

KFB Policy:

“We support forest that qualify for an agricultural deferment of property tax should be assessed using an assessment model that is appropriate for forest land.”

[HCR 47: D. Frazier Gordon - A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION commending Madison County Schools for using the farm-to-school concept for school meals and encouraging other school districts to do so.](#)

This resolution encourages all local school districts to purchase locally-grown food to solve food supply issues, provide fresh, nutritious food to students, and support local producers. This resolution passed the House on a vote of [91-0](#) and passed the Senate on a vote of [36-0](#) and now heads to the Governor for his signature.

KFB Policy:

“We encourage the utilization of Kentucky agriculture products by state and county agencies, state funded institutions, public schools and publicly funded projects whenever possible. We also encourage these institutions to contract with local growers when feasible.”

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

During the week, you may reach your representative and senator in Frankfort by calling 502.564.8100.

If you do not desire to talk to your state legislator immediately or you just want to leave a message, you may dial toll-free 800.372.7181. An answering service will take your message for your representative or senator. The legislative calendar information line is 800.633.9650, the bill status line is 866.840.2835, and the Governor's office number is 502.564.2611.

If you desire to e-mail your representative or senator, [click here](#) for a list of e-mail addresses for members of the Kentucky General Assembly. Find your legislator and click on his or her name to access their e-mail address.

YOUR LOBBYISTS

The following are registered to lobby for Kentucky Farm Bureau for the 2022 session: Jeff Harper, Public Affairs Director, extension 5104; Kyle Kelly, extension 7417; and Drew Graham, extension 5121. If you would like to call your lobbyists during the evening, call 502.495.5000 and key in their extensions.

If you would like to contact one of your lobbyists during the day, please call Katie Weatherholt at 502.493.7669 and she will put you in touch with one of them.

KEEP ALL LEGISLATIVE REPORTS FOR FUTURE USE

We suggest that you keep a record of the Legislative Reports on file because, on occasion, we may refer to a previous report as a source of more details regarding an issue.

FUTURE DATES OF INTEREST

March 29 & 30 Concurrence Only
March 31 - April 12..... Veto Period
April 14..... General Assembly, Sine Die

**The Legislative Report and KFB's Priority Issues are also on
KFB's website at kyfb.com and the KFB app.**