



January 26, 2018

Legislative Report No. 5

2018 Kentucky General Assembly

Today marks the seventeenth legislative day of the 2018 session of the Kentucky General Assembly.

The House of Representatives has begun working on the State Budget ([HB 200](#)) for fiscal years 2018-2020. Budget review sub-committees have been meeting to discuss various sections of the budget.

Kentucky Farm Bureau has been meeting with members of the General Assembly to express our position on our funding priorities as well as those agricultural related programs that received no funding in the original version of the budget.

The House Working Group on Kentucky's Transportation Infrastructure will be meeting next week and hear testimony from the KYTC Road Fund Revenue Workgroup and also hear a review of Kentucky's infrastructure challenges.

[HB 153: R. Heath, D. Bentley, M. Castlen, M. Dossett, J. Gooch Jr., D. Hale, M. Hart, K. Imes, S. Miles, R. Mills, J. Petrie, P. Pratt, M. Prunty, R. Rothenburger, B. Rowland, D. Schamore, J. Sims Jr, W. Stone, W. Thomas, J. Tipton, T. Turner - AN ACT relating to overweight vehicles.](#)

This bill would amend KRS 189.222 to allow for a ten percent weight variance for vehicles transporting feed for livestock or poultry. This bill passed the Senate Agriculture Committee on Tuesday and should be voted on by the full Senate next week.

KFB Policy:

"We support the 10% weight exemption on farm trucks and trucks servicing farms hauling agriculture products, similar to the same benefits currently given to the transportation of primary forest products."

Action Request:

Please contact your State Senator and ask them to **support** [HB153](#).

HB 130: K. Upchurch, J. Petrie, K. Imes, K. Moser, J. Tipton, T. Turner - AN ACT relating to administrative regulations.

This bill would require the staff of the Administrative Regulation Review Subcommittee to submit to that committee's co-chairs an annual report on administrative regulations found deficient by a legislative committee and list the information that is necessary to complete the report and allow a committee to take action on an administrative regulation within 60 days of LRC referral. This bill would make an emergency administrative regulation expire after 210 days and allow an administrative body that extends the time for filing a statement of consideration to postpone the expiration beyond 210 days for a number of days equal to the extension. This bill passed the House on a 91-1 vote and now heads to the Senate.

KFB Policy:

"We recommend that the state legislature provide specific guidelines and restraints on the agencies that are to administer the laws and are given the power to adopt rules and regulations."

HB 222: S. Miles - AN ACT relating to liability for damage to property adjacent to Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission-managed lands.

This bill would waive the sovereign immunity of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources and establish the department's liability when the operations of commission-managed lands results in damages to property of an adjacent landowner and provide that a claim for damages shall be brought in the county in which the adjacent landowner's property is located, and the action shall not be removed to Franklin Circuit or District Court. It would also provide that the Kentucky Claims Commission does not have jurisdiction over an adjacent landowner's claim for damages. This bill has been assigned to the House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee.

KFB Policy:

"We recommend that the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources be responsible for damages caused by actions, or the prevention of certain actions, which prohibit landowners from making improvements to or maintaining their land."

The filing deadline for candidates seeking office is January 30, 2018. To date there have been 178 candidates file for State Representative and 39 file for State Senator. All one hundred house and half of the state senate seats are on the ballot this year.

Special Elections:

The candidates for the two special elections to fill the vacancies in state house district's 49 and 89 have been named.

The candidates for House District 49 which includes Bullitt County are:

- Democrat Linda Belcher and Republican Rebecca Johnson

The candidates for House District 89 which includes Jackson, parts of Laurel, and Madison Counties are:

- Republican Robert Goforth and Democrat Kelly Smith

The special election for the **49th District** will be held **February 20**, and the special election for the **89th District** will be held on **February 27**.

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.

[Click here](#) to view the **2018 Standing Committee Schedule**.

[Click here](#) for a complete list of leadership and standing committees.

YOUR LOBBYISTS

The following are registered to lobby for Kentucky Farm Bureau for the 2018 session: Jeff Harper, Public Affairs Director, extension 5104; Tony Sholar, extension 5121, and David S. Beck, extension 5101. If you would like to call your lobbyists during the evening, call 502.352.4280 at the Frankfort headquarters or call 502.495.5000 and key in their extensions.

If you would like to contact one of your lobbyists during the day, please call Sara Stivers at 502.495.5121 and she will put you in touch with one of them.

KEEP ALL LEGISLATIVE ACTION REQUESTS FOR FUTURE USE

We suggest that you keep a record of the Legislative Action Requests 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

February 16.....Last Day for Bill Request
February 19..... President's Day Holiday
February 26..... Last Day for New House Bills
February 28.....Last Day for New Senate Bills
March 7.....KFB Legislative Drive-In/Food Check-Out Day
March 27 & March 28..... Concurrence Only
March 29 - April 9..... Veto Period
April 13.....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.**