



ACTION REQUEST

February 21, 2013

LEGISLATIVE REPORT NO. 5 – 2013 KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Today marks the sixteenth legislative day of this thirty day session. We are over halfway through this regular session and the major issues like pension reform ([SB2](#)), special taxing district oversight ([HB1](#)) and legislative redistricting ([HB2](#)) have yet to be resolved. The last day to introduce new Senate bills was February 15 and the last day for new House bills to be introduced was February 19. There are a total of 580 House bills and resolutions and 393 Senate bills and resolutions filed.

Last week in our legislative report we stated that the Internal Revenue Service had extended the filing deadline for farmers to April 15, 2013 rather than the normal due date of March 1 and we were working with the Governor's Office to seek the same extension for Kentucky Individual Income Tax Returns. We are pleased to report the Kentucky Department of Revenue has announced they would mirror the IRS guideline and extend the filing deadline for Kentucky farmers to April 15, 2013 as well.

Below are a few specific bills we are following:

[HB 190: S. Westrom, J. Adams, D. Watkins – AN ACT prohibiting smoking in public places and places of employment.](#)

This bill would prohibit indoor smoking in businesses, places of employment, and other listed public places but would exempt private residences, unless used for child care or adult day care. The bill would permit smoking in designated non-enclosed areas and require posting of "no smoking" signs as specified locations and would also permit local governments to adopt stricter regulations by ordinance. This bill passed the House Health and Welfare Committee today and now heads to the full House. We have been working to keep this bill from coming to a vote on the House floor but we need your help.

Farm Bureau Policy:

"We believe business owners should have the exclusive right to prohibit tobacco use in their private business. We are adamantly opposed to any level of government or agency mandating that businesses prohibit tobacco use."

Action Request: Please contact your member of the House of Representatives and ask them to **OPPOSE HB 190**. Your calls have been successful because the full House has yet to vote on this bill.

[HB 378: F. Steele, S. Rudy, R. Quarles – AN ACT relating to impaired waters.](#)

This bill would create a new section of Subchapter 70 of KRS Chapter 224 to define terms and require the Energy and Environment cabinet to maintain a listing of impaired waters placed on the 303(d) list and to make that list available on the cabinet's website and require the cabinet include other methodological information associated with determining whether to place the water body on the list and with developing any total maximum daily load. It would also require the cabinet to provide notice to certain interested parties of a water body's listing on the 303(d) for effluent or thermal-based impairment and require the cabinet to prepare a report each year to the Interim Joint Committee on Natural Resources and Environment by December 31 on TMDL development for the following year and create delayed effective date for the website listing of impaired waters and total maximum daily loads. This bill passed the House

Natural Resource and Environment Committee today and was placed on the House consent calendar.

[SB 190: P. Hornback, D. Givens, D. Parrett – AN ACT relating to water quality. This is the Senate companion bill to HB 378.](#)

Farm Bureau Priority Issue:

“Request state government to include agricultural representation in the process of developing water quality regulations to include, but not limited to TMDL’s.”

“State water resource policy and regulations should be based on adequate scientific research data.”

[HB 165: R. Damron, J. Short, W. Stone – AN ACT relating to rock quarries.](#)

This bill would define "rock quarry" and to create a permit exemption for owners of rock quarries who use the excavated rock solely on their own farm. This bill passed the House Natural Resources and Environment Committee today and is on the House consent calendar.

[HB 1: G. Stumbo, R. Adkins, R. Bunch, De. Butler, Dw. Butler, J. Carney, L. Clark, L. Combs, W. Coursey, J. Donohue, C. Embry Jr., J. Glenn, J. Greer, K. Hall, R. Heath, R. Henderson, J. Hoover, D. Horlander, K. Imes, D. Keene, K. King, M. King, Ji. Lee, M. Marzian, T. McKee, R. Meeks, M. Meredith, C. Miller, T. Mills, R. Nelson, R. Palumbo, R. Rand, S. Riggs, T. Riner, S. Santoro, R. Smart, D. St. Onge, T. Thompson, G. Watkins, S. Westrom, A. Wuchner, B. Yonts - AN ACT relating to special purpose governmental entities, making an appropriation therefor, and declaring an emergency.](#)

This bill would establish an online central registry for the reporting and dissemination of administrative and financial information by special purpose governmental entities and establish audit requirements for special purpose governmental entities. We are working with members of the General Assembly to address some potential issues in this legislation. This bill has passed the House and been assigned to the Senate State and Local Government Committee.

Yesterday was designated as Food Check-Out Day. Kentucky Farm Bureau along with Kentucky Commodity organizations provided each member of the General Assembly and our Constitutional Officers with a basket full of Kentucky commodities. The House passed [HR 111](#) and the Senate passed [SR 178](#), honoring Kentucky farmers for providing the safest, most affordable food in the world.

YOUR LOBBYISTS

Those who are registered to lobby for Kentucky Farm Bureau for the 2013 session are: Jeff Harper, extension 5104; Bryan Alvey, extension 7218; Tony Sholar, extension 5121; Beth Wisman, extension 5105; 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.

CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

You can reach your senator and representative by calling 502.564.8100 or 800.372.7181 to leave a message, or send a fax to 502.564.6543. The legislative calendar information line is 800.633.9650, and the bill status line is 866.840.2835. Governor Beshear’s office number is 502.564.2611.

Note: The Legislative Report and KFB’s Priority Issues are also included on KFB’s website at [kyfb.com](#)

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