



**ACTION
REQUEST**

March 7, 2014

Legislative Report No. 10 2014 Kentucky General Assembly

Today marks the forty first legislative day of the 2014 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. To date there have been a total of 470 Senate bills and resolutions and 749 House bills and resolutions introduced. The last day to introduce a House bill was March 4 and the last day for new Senate bills was yesterday.

The House Appropriation and Revenue Committee will likely vote on the state budget on Tuesday, March 11. In next weeks report, we will provide an update on the House version of the budget as it relates to our funding priorities. As of today, it looks like funding for the Breathitt Veterinary Center will remain in the House version of the budget and we will see and increase in the amount of tobacco settlement dollars for agricultural development projects in FY 16.

It is also anticipated that the provision that would allow PVA's to charge a fee to special taxing districts for use of the PVA assessment in levying their property taxes will be removed in the House version of the budget.

Below are a few specific bills we are following:

[HB 448: T. McKee, T. Turner, M. Denham, J. Kay, M. Meredith, R. Quarles, B. Rowland, S. Rudy, J. Short, R. Smart, W. Stone - AN ACT relating to destruction of crops on farms by wildlife.](#)

This bill would allow landowners, their spouses, dependent children, or their designees to kill or trap on their lands any wildlife causing damage to the lands or personal property without a tag or permit and allow disposal of the carcass on-site. This bill will also streamline the process of removing the carcass from the farm to have it processed. It will require inedible parts from wildlife not to be utilized for any purpose and allow the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to promulgate regulations establishing procedures for the designee

appointment process. This bill passed the House Agriculture and Small Business Committee on a 25-0 vote and was placed on the House Consent Calendar. It should pass the full House on Monday and then head to the Senate.

KFB Priority Issue:

"Support effective wildlife management that will reduce the wildlife population in an effort to alleviate continued crop and livestock losses."

SB 44: P. Hornback, D. Parrett, D. Givens - AN ACT relating to motor vehicle weight tolerance.

This bill would provide a weight tolerance of 10% for commercial vehicles that are engaged in the transportation of agricultural products. This bill has passed the Senate and was received in the House on February 5. The bill was assigned to the House Transportation Committee.

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:

If your Representative is a member of the House Transportation Committee please contact them and ask them to **SUPPORT SB 44**.

For a list of committee members please [click here](#).

SB 170: D. Parrett, P. Hornback – AN ACT relating to noxious weeds and invasive plants.

This bill would revise the list of noxious weeds and invasive plants to be eradicated from the state rights-of-way and provide that the Department of Highways shall promote awareness of the eradication program through the use of electronic media and the Cooperative Extension Service and allow the department to, by administrative regulation, add noxious weeds and invasive plants to or delete them from the list and establish factors the department may consider in making a determination regarding the addition or deletion of a plant and provide that the department shall review the regulation at least once every four years. This bill was assigned to the Senate Agriculture Committee and will be heard on Tuesday March 11.

[HB 434: R. Smart, T. McKee, M. King, Ji. Lee, S. Overly, B. Yonts - AN ACT relating to the eradication of noxious weeds and invasive plants.](#)

This bill would revise the list of the noxious weeds to be cleared from state rights-of-way and urge continued university research on noxious weeds and invasive plants. This bill was assigned to the House Transportation Committee and has been posted for consideration.

[SB 109: P. Hornback, D. Parrett - AN ACT relating to the sale of tobacco related products to minors and declaring an emergency.](#)

This bill would define "alternative nicotine product", "tobacco product", and "vapor product" and prohibit the sale to minors of tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, and vapor products and prohibit minors from purchasing tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, and vapor products. Yesterday this bill passed the Senate and now heads to the House.

KFB Policy:

"We oppose the sale of e-cigarettes and e-cigarette products to minors"

PLEASE NOTE:

The Kentucky Farm Bureau **Legislative Drive-In** will now be held on **Wednesday, March 12, 2014** in the auditorium at the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, located at 200 Mero Street, in Frankfort beginning at 9:00 a.m. We encourage you to bring a car load to visit your senators and representatives. Please call them in advance to schedule a visit at 502.564.8100. This is a great opportunity to show your legislators your appreciation for their votes as well as discussing issues affecting agriculture that are still pending this session.

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

YOUR LOBBYISTS

The following are registered to lobby for Kentucky Farm Bureau for the 2014 session: Jeff Harper, Public Affairs Director, 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.

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