



March 1, 2019

## **Legislative Report No. 6**

### **2019 Kentucky General Assembly**

Today marks the twenty-second legislative day of this 2019 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. There are only eight legislative days left in this session. The General Assembly is currently scheduled to meet March 4 – March 7, March 12 and 13, then recess for the ten-day veto period then reconvene for the final two days on March 28 and 29.

We continue to meet with legislative leaders, the Governor's Office and the Cabinet for Economic Development on rural economic development. We are looking at amending the current [Kentucky Small Business Tax Credit Program](#) to include a Farmer Small Business Tax Credit. This tax credit could be taken when a farmer sells his farm to a beginning farmer.

#### **KFB Policy:**

*"We support the creation of tax relief for farmers who are retiring or leaving production agriculture and are transferring farmland to individuals who will continue in production agriculture."*

#### **Some bills of interest:**

##### **H.B. 354: S. Rudy – AN ACT relating to taxation.**

This bill would exempt the sales of admissions by nonprofit educational, charitable, religious institutions, and includes non-profit civic, governmental, or other non-profit organizations. It also exempts the first \$10,000 of sales in a calendar year made by these non-profit organizations. This bill passed the House by a vote of 96-4 and has been assigned to the Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee. We are working with members of the Senate to increase Kentucky's \$25,000 cap on Section 179 deduction.

**KFB Policy:**

"We encourage sales tax not be imposed on nonprofit or charitable organizations."

**H.B. 311: M. Meredith – AN ACT relating to cultured animal meat.**

This bill would amend KRS 217.035 to include any food product that purports to be or is represented as meat or a meat product that contains any cultured animal tissue produced from in vitro animal cell cultures outside of the organism which it is derived. This bill passed the House 93-1. We expect this bill to be heard in the Senate Agriculture committee next Tuesday.

**KFB Policy:**

*"We support legislation that would prohibit the misrepresentation of a product as meat that is not derived from harvested production of livestock, poultry or aquaculture."*

**S.B. 153: P. Hornback – AN ACT relating to grain.**

This bill would modernize the Grain Insurance Fund. Under the proposed law, oversight of the fund would move from the Grain Insurance Board to the State Board of Agriculture. The new statute would also clarify that any participating grain producer in this state would be covered under the new law. This legislation would also increase the membership of the State Board of Agriculture from 14 to 18 members and would change the entities eligible to nomination individuals to the board. This bill passed the full Senate on Tuesday by a vote of 34-0 and now heads to the House for their consideration. This bill was assigned to the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee.

**2019 State Priority Issue:**

*"Support the modernization of the Grain Insurance Fund to adequately protect current and future Kentucky grain producers."*

**KFB Policy:**

*"We recommend that the State Board of Agriculture consist of commodity specific members and at least one member representing Farm Bureau."*

**H.B. 4: K. Upchurch – AN ACT relating to administrative regulations.**

This bill would require an annual report on administrative regulations found deficient by a legislative committee. It would also make an emergency regulation expire after 240 days. This bill passed the full House by a vote of 94-0 and has been assigned to the Senate State and Local Government Committee.

**2019 State Priority Issue:**

"Oppose any agency exceeding legislative intent in the implementation of regulations."

**Special Election:**

**On March 5, 2019**, there will be a special election to fill the vacant Senate District 31 seat. The candidates for this election are:

Darrell Pugh – D  
Phillip Wheeler – R

Senate District 31 includes the counties of Elliot, Lawrence, Martin, Morgan, and Pike.

**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**

Those who are registered to lobby for Kentucky Farm Bureau for the 2019 session are: Jeff Harper, Public Affairs Director, extension 5104; Kyle Kelly, extension 7417; Mike Biagi, extension 7270; and Drew Graham, extension 5101. 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 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**

March 8 & 11.....Legislative Holidays  
March 12 & 13.....Concurrence Only  
March 14–25.....Veto Period  
March 26 & 27.....Legislative Holiday  
March 29 .....General Assembly, Sine Die

**The Legislative Report and KFB's Priority Issues are also on  
KFB's website at [kyfb.com](http://kyfb.com) and the KFB app.**