



January 17, 2020

Legislative Report No. 3

2020 Kentucky General Assembly

Today marks the ninth legislative day of the 2020 Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. There have been a total of 161 senate and 340 house bills and resolutions filed.

Governor Beshear will present his budget for fiscal years 2021-2022 on January 28 to a joint session of the General Assembly.

We are working with members of the General Assembly, the administration and other interested parties on legislation that would create a fund for the purpose of expanding broadband deployment to underserved areas.

Some bills of interest:

[HB 273: R. Heath - AN ACT relating to the establishment of a tax credit to promote investments in Kentucky businesses.](#)

This bill would establish the growth fund tax credit and establish an application and approval process for investment in growth businesses by a growth fund and verification related to the new tax credit. This Act may be cited as the Kentucky Rural Jobs Act of 2020.

2020 KFB State Priority Issue:

"Support efforts that will retain and attract new business and industry to rural areas of Kentucky."

[SB 5: R. Alvarado - AN ACT relating to special purpose governmental entities.](#)

This bill would require proposed increases in ad valorem taxes and certain fees and the levy of new ad valorem taxes or fees by special purpose governmental entities to be submitted to the legislative body of the county or city in which the special purpose governmental entity is located for review. We have worked with the bill sponsor to include

language that would allow the legislative body of the county or city, the option to lower a proposed rate.

KFB Policy:

"We recommend that only elected officials have the authority to increase or create new taxes. In addition, we strongly urge all entities with the ability to increase taxes to be accountable for the expenditures of tax dollars to the citizens."

"We support allowing fiscal courts the flexibility to lower a tax rate submitted by a special taxing district."

SB 81: M. Castlen - AN ACT relating to milk marketing.

This bill would define "milk" and prohibit a food product labeled as milk unless it meets the definition of milk.

KFB Policy:

"We oppose inaccurate or misleading labeling of all dairy products."

SB 94: P. Hornback - AN ACT relating to motor fuel.

This bill would remove requirements for the sale of gasoline containing up to ten percent ethanol.

KFB Policy:

"We support updating all state statutes and regulations to comply with federal guidelines relative to motor fuel use when approved by federal statute and/or regulation."

HB 214: J. Tipton - AN ACT relating to the Veterinary Contract Spaces Program and making an appropriation therefor.

This bill would establish the Veterinary Contract Spaces Program and require the Kentucky Higher Education Authority to purchase enrollment spaces annually for Kentucky students at participating veterinary schools.

KFB Policy:

"We support additional funding to ensure that any veterinarian student vacancies offered by our affiliated colleges of veterinary medicine are filled with Kentucky students."

Members on some of the legislative committees have changed. [**Click here**](#) to view the list of committees and their membership.

REMINDER:

This year we will again combine our **Legislative Drive-In Day** with our annual **Food Check-Out Day** activities on **February 5, 2020**. This will allow those of you visiting with your legislator(s) the opportunity to present them with a basket of Kentucky grown agricultural products to celebrate the safest most affordable food in the world.

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the auditorium of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, located at 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky.

We encourage you to contact your senator and representative in advance to let them know you will be in Frankfort that day and to set up a meeting with them to discuss issues affecting agriculture and to present them with a Food Check-Out Day basket.

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 2020 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 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

January 20	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
February 5.....	KFB Legislative Drive-In/Food Check-Out Day
February 17.....	President's Day Holiday
February 21.....	Last Day for Bill Requests
March 2.....	Last Day for New House Bills
March 3.....	Last Day for New Senate Bills
March 31 & April 1.....	Concurrence Only
April 2 - April 13.....	Veto Period
April 15.....	General Assembly, Sine Die