

February 5, 2021

# Legislative Report No. 4 2021 Kentucky General Assembly

Yesterday marked the eleventh legislative day of the 2021 Session of the Kentucky General Assembly. There has been a total of 243 senate and 455 house bills and resolutions filed. The last day to file a new Senate bill is February 10 and the last day to file a new House bill is February 11.

The General Assembly has amended the 2021 Regular Session Calendar (<u>click here</u>). They will return for day 12 of the session on Tuesday, February 9.

The free conference committee on the state budget (<u>HB 192</u>) continues to meet to finalize the budget. We continue to communicate our funding priorities to members of the committee.

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

### SB 3: P. Hornback - AN ACT relating to reorganization and declaring an emergency.

This bill would remove the Agricultural Development Board and the Kentucky Agricultural Finance Corporation from the Office of the Governor and place it in the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. This bill passed the Senate by a vote of 29-8. This bill passed the House yesterday on a vote of 72-23 with House Floor Amendment 1 and now heads back to the Senate for concurrence.

#### **KFB Policy:**

"We support administration of Ag Development Funds be moved to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and those funds be protected for use for programs that directly impact farm income."

## SB 93: J. Howell - AN ACT relating to the State Board of Agriculture.

This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture to appoint members of the State Board of Agriculture. This bill has been assigned to the Senate Agriculture Committee.

# HR 45: B. Reed - A RESOLUTION recognizing the establishment of the Kentucky Farm Bureau Generation Bridge Program.

This resolution recognizes the establishment of Kentucky Farm Bureau's Generation Bridge Program. This resolution has been assigned to the House Agriculture Committee.

# HB 229: M. Koch - AN ACT relating to the protection of livestock.

This bill changes the word "cattle" to "livestock" in the definition of property for the purpose of criminal damage to property offenses. This bill passed the House Judiciary Committee and now heads to the full House for their consideration.

# HB 348: P. Pratt - AN ACT relating to broadband and making an appropriation therefor.

This bill would establish the Office of Innovation in the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and provide the duties and responsibilities of the office. It would also place the broadband deployment fund in the Office of Innovation. This bill has been assigned to the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee.

#### **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, <u>click here</u> 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 2021 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 REPORTS FOR FUTURE USE**

We suggest that you keep a record of the Legislative Reports 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 10	Last Day for New Senate Bills
February 11	Last Day for New House Bills
February 15	President's Day Holiday
March 15 & 16	Concurrence Only
March 17-27	Veto Period
March 30	General Assembly, Sine Die