



March 8, 2019

Legislative Report No. 7

2019 Kentucky General Assembly

Yesterday marked the twenty-sixth legislative day of this 2019 session of the Kentucky General Assembly. There are only four legislative days left in this session. The General Assembly is currently scheduled to meet March 12 – March 14, then recess for the ten-day veto period then reconvene for the final day on March 28.

Some bills of interest:

[S.B. 246: Sen. D. Carroll – AN ACT relating to Economic Development.](#)

This bill would change the bond program to the economic development fund. It will also update definitions of agribusiness, eligible company, headquarters, manufacturing, and non-retail service or technology and would set the amount of economic development projects to \$200,000,000 investment for inducements. This bill was amended by the House Economic Development and Workforce Investment Committee to include a Farmer Small Business Tax Credit. This credit can be taken by an individual selling their farmland to a new or beginning farmer. This bill passed the committee and now heads to the full House for their consideration.

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."

[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

passed the Senate 33-0. Changes were made to this bill by the Senate and a conference committee has been appointed to finalize the bill. We are working with members of the conference committee to increase Kentucky's \$25,000 cap on Section 179 deduction.

KFB Policy:

"We support Kentucky's depreciation schedule conforming with the federal depreciation schedule including Section 179 rules and regulations."

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

H.B. 354 Conferees:

Rep. Rudy, Chair
Rep. Osborne
Rep. Meade
Rep. Carney
Rep. Miles
Rep. McCoy
Rep. Pratt
Rep. Adkins
Rep. Graham
Rep. Jenkins

Sen. McDaniel, Chair
Sen. Stivers
Sen. Givens
Sen. Thayer
Sen. Raque-Adams
Sen. Wilson
Sen. Humphries
Sen. McGarvey
Sen. Turner
Sen. Parrett

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 and passed the Senate by a vote of 36-0 yesterday. This bill now heads to the Governor for his signature.

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 by a vote of

34-0. An amended version of this bill passed the House yesterday by a vote of 92-1, and now heads back to the Senate for their consideration of the House amendments.

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."

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 15–26.....Veto Period
March 27.....Legislative Holiday
March 28General Assembly, Sine Die

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