

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

**Topic:** Amendment to 702 KAR 5:080, Bus Drivers' Qualifications, Responsibilities and Training (First Reading)

**Date:** October 2019

**Action Requested:**  Review     Action/Consent     Action/Discussion

**Held In:**     Full Board     Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment  
                   Finance     Operations Management

### SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To review the proposed administrative regulation amendment to 702 KAR 5:080, Bus drivers' qualifications, responsibilities and training. KRS 189.540 requires the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) to promulgate administrative regulations governing the design and operation of all Kentucky school buses.

### APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 189.540, 156.160, 702 KAR 5:080

### BACKGROUND:

#### *Existing Policy:*

KRS 189.540 requires the KBE to promulgate administrative regulations governing the design and operation of all Kentucky school buses. 702 KAR 5:080 establishes Kentucky's requirements for school bus drivers. The regulation incorporates by reference the Driver Trainer Instructor Manual. The regulation was updated last in 2007.

#### *Summary of Issue:*

It is necessary to amend 702 KAR 5:080 to modernize Kentucky's training requirements for school bus drivers and align them with new federal rules (effective 2020) related to entry-level training for school bus drivers. Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) transportation staff worked with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Kentucky State Police, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Student Transportation Association of Kentucky (STAK), Kentucky Association for Pupil Transportation (KAPT), transportation directors and driver trainers from throughout the state to update and remove redundancy between the regulation and training manual. Additionally, the FMCSA is implementing new rules (effective 2020) for all new commercial driver's license (CDL) holders, requiring the KDE to update the training manual.

A summary of the recommended changes to the regulation are provide in an attachment.

#### *Budget Impact:*

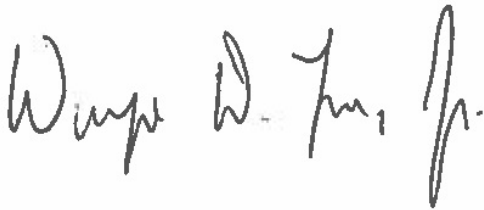
There is no impact to KDE's budget related to the amendment of the regulation. Changes to the entry-level driver training requirements is not expected to impact local district budgets.

**GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:**

Through the amendment process, staff consulted with the FMCSA, Kentucky State Police, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Student Transportation Association of Kentucky (STAK), Kentucky Association for Pupil Transportation (KAPT), transportation directors and driver trainers from throughout the state. All parties were in support of the proposed changes.

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**Commissioner of Education**

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