

Kentucky General Assembly Legislative Summary - Regular Session 2020

The Kentucky General Assembly adjourned the 2020 legislative session on April 15. Because of the unknowns associated with the Coronavirus pandemic, a one-year budget was approved (for the first time). A grand total of 932 bills were filed during the session (647 in the House and 285 in the Senate) and 127 of these bills are currently eligible to become law.

Overview:

1 bill has become law without the Governor's signature;

111 bills have been signed into law by the Governor;

12 bills have been delivered to the Secretary of State (2 Constitutional Amendments, 5 bills that were vetoed by the governor and were overridden by the House and Senate, and 5 budget bills that received line item vetoes (four were overridden, one was not); and

3 bills were vetoed by the Governor and not overridden due to the adjournment of the House and the Senate.

Summary of Various Bills for which KYMEA Members may have an interest:

HB 44 - amends KRS Section 511.100 to add "natural gas and petroleum" pipelines and related facilities and "cable television headends" to the definition of key infrastructure assets making it a crime if an individual defaces, destroys or damages a key infrastructure asset or tampers with a key infrastructure asset so that its operations become harmful or dangerous. In addition HB 44 provides for a civil action for actual damages as well as punitive damages.

HB 195 - provides for an alternative posting of legal notices on a "Notice Web site" in lieu of newspaper publication requirements set forth in KRS Chapter 424. HB 195 also removes the requirement that counties publish notices of "intended enactment" of ordinances prior to such ordinances being considered by a County Fiscal Court.

HB 362 - amends the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority Act to provide for broadband deployment and sets up a segregated revolving fund for providing local governments with assistance in establishing broadband in their communities.

HB 484 - restructures the County Employees Retirement System and the Kentucky Employees Retirement System separating the two systems and establishing separate boards to oversee the systems.

HB 570 - amends various sections of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, providing for a streamlined approach for amending Interlocal Agreements, provide for the addition or removal of members to an interlocal agreement in accordance with terms of the agreement, allows for the establishment of a governing body for the interlocal agency created and designates an interlocal agency as a public agency.

SB 150 - provides for certain temporary modifications and changes to statutory law relating to the state of emergency declared by the Governor in response to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. Modifications and changes include the closure of businesses, the operation of governmental functions through video conferencing, extended response time for complying with open records requests, temporary suspension of certain filing deadlines. Law was effective immediately upon passage and approval by Governor and remains in effect until Governor removes the declaration of the state of emergency or until the first day of the next regular session of the legislature.