

**From:** [James Wayne](#)  
**To:** [KDE KBE](#)  
**Subject:** Corporal punishment proposed regulations  
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To the Kentucky Board of Education

Please include the following statement as part of the public comment on the proposed regulation regarding the use of corporal punishment in public schools which is to be considered by the full state school board on December 1, 2021.

In 2017, as state representative, I introduced legislation to ban corporal punishment in public schools in Kentucky. The legislation, in following sessions, has progressed, having been passed by the House, but has never become law. In 2022 the legislation will again be introduced with the hope it will pass both chambers and be signed into law, ending a practice that should have been banished generations ago.

As a practicing psychotherapist, founder of the Wayne Institute for Advanced Psychotherapy at Bellarmine University (now at Loyola University in Chicago) and former faculty member of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, I can attest to the life-long damage childhood trauma, whether physical or verbal, has on individuals. For the Commonwealth of Kentucky to sanction the physical assault of minors in an effort to discipline them is not only barbaric but also harmful in ways that may only be apparent later in a person's life

I commend the Kentucky Board of Education for proposing the regulations to severely limit the use of corporal punishment of students in our public school system. I know the board, like me, would like to fully ban the practice, but these regulations are a positive step for our children.

Sincerely,

Jim Wayne  
State Representative, District 35, 1991-2019.