

Legislative Report #11

April 8, 2020

Senate Bills

Senate Bill 5

Title	AN ACT relating to special purpose governmental entities.
Sponsors	<u>R. Alvarado, R. Mills, J. Schickel, D. Thayer</u>
Summary of Original Version	Create a new section of KRS Chapter 65A to require proposed increases in ad valorem taxes and certain fees and the levy of new ad valorem taxes or fees by special purpose governmental entities to be submitted to the legislative body of the county or city in which the special purpose governmental entity is located for review; amend various sections of the Kentucky Revised Statutes to conform; repeal KRS 65A.100; EFFECTIVE January 1, 2021.
Action	Passed House with Committee Substitute agreed to By Senate and delivered to the Governor. <u>Vetoed by Governor.</u>

Senate Bill 111

Title	AN ACT relating to the transportation of police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel killed in the line of duty.
Sponsors	<u>P. Wheeler, J. Higdon</u>
Action	03/18/20 • reported favorably, 2nd reading, to Rules 03/26/20 • floor amendments (1), (2), (3-title) and (4-title) filed

Senate Bill 216

Title AN ACT relating to employment of part-time adjunct instructors for the Kentucky Fire Commission.

Sponsors M. Nemes, P. Wheeler

Summary of Original Version Amends KRS 61.637 to allow a part-time adjunct instructor for the Kentucky Fire Commission, who has not participated in the Kentucky Employees Retirement Systems prior to retirement, but is eligible to retire from the County Employees Retirement System, to retire and draw benefits without being required to resign from his or her position as part-time adjunct instructor for the Kentucky Fire Commission.

No Action taken this session.

Senate Bill 239

Title AN ACT relating to local government pension plans.

Sponsor M. Wilson

Summary of Original Version Amend KRS 90.400 and 90.410 to permit the board of trustees of a legacy city pension fund having fewer than twelve active and retired members or beneficiaries to offer those individuals a one-time irrevocable option to convert monthly pension benefits from the fund to monthly annuity benefits from an insurance company for the same amount, require the insurance company to honor any features and options available under the existing plan, and require the board to provide beneficiaries with complete and appropriate disclosures sufficient to make an informed decision; amend 95.290 to permit the board of trustees of a legacy policemen's pension fund or firefighters' pension fund in a city of the first class having fewer than twelve active and retired members or beneficiaries to offer those individuals a one-time irrevocable option to convert monthly pension benefits from the fund to monthly annuity benefits from an insurance company for the same amount, require the insurance company to honor any features and options available under the existing plan, and require the board to provide beneficiaries with complete and appropriate disclosures sufficient to make an informed decision; amend KRS 95.530, 95.622, 95.767, and 95.869, to permit the board of trustees of a local legacy policemen's and

firefighters' pension fund having fewer than twelve active and retired members or beneficiaries, to offer those individuals a one-time irrevocable option to convert monthly pension benefits from the fund to monthly annuity benefits from an insurance company for the same amount, require the insurance company to honor any features and options available under the existing plan, and require the board to provide beneficiaries with complete and appropriate disclosures sufficient to make an informed decision; amend KRS 95.620 to conform.

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| Action
03/19/20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to Local Government (H)• taken from Local Government (H)• 1st reading• returned to Local Government (H)• posted in committee |
| 03/26/20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• reported favorably, 2nd reading, to Rules with Committee Substitute (1) |

Senate Bill 249

Title AN ACT relating to retirement and declaring an emergency.

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| 04/01/20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• taken from Rules (H)• placed in the Orders of the Day for Wednesday, April 1, 2020• floor amendments (3) and (4-title) filed• 3rd reading, passed 89-1 with floor amendments (3) and (4-title)• received in Senate• to Rules (S)• posted for passage for concurrence in House floor amendments (3) and (4-title)• Senate concurred in House floor amendments (3) and (4-title)• passed 33-0• enrolled, signed by President of the Senate• enrolled, signed by Speaker of the House• delivered to Governor |
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House Bills

House Bill 8

Title AN ACT relating to ground ambulance service providers and making an appropriation therefor.

Sponsors R. Rothenburger, M. Hart, L. Bechler, A. Bowling, D. Elliott, D. Frazier, C. Fugate, D. Hale, D. Lewis, S. Lewis, C. Massey, K. Moser, P. Pratt, M. Prunty, S. Santoro, S. Sheldon, J. Sims Jr, N. Tate

Summary of Original Version Create new sections of KRS Chapter 205 to define terms; establish the Medicaid ground ambulance service provider assessment; require ground ambulance service providers to pay a Medicaid ambulance service provider assessment quarterly; authorize the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to promulgate administrative regulations necessary to implement the Medicaid ground ambulance service provider assessment; create the ambulance service assessment revenue fund; APPROPRIATION.

Action in Senate rules

House Bill 14

Title AN ACT relating to tuition benefits and making an appropriation therefor.

Summary of Original Version Amend KRS 164.2841, relating to college tuition benefits for spouses and children of specified emergency response personnel and public employees who have died in the course of their duties to specify that the beneficiary is eligible for up to a maximum of 128 credit hours of undergraduate instruction; amend KRS 164.2842, relating to college tuition benefits for spouses and children of specified emergency response personnel and public employees who have been totally and permanently disabled in the course of their duties to specify that the

beneficiary is eligible for up to a maximum of 128 credit hours of undergraduate instruction.

Summary

Retain original provisions of the bill, but remove maximum credit hour limitation in Section 1; make technical changes in Section 2.

Action

in Senate rules.

House Bill 18

Title AN ACT relating to fire districts.

Sponsor [J. Nemes](#)

**Summary of
Original
Version**

Amend KRS 75.040 to deem that emergency ambulance service provided by a fire protection district, volunteer fire department district, or subdistrict, is the primary emergency ambulance service within the district or subdistrict in the boundaries of the county containing the largest population within the district boundaries; add a method for boards of trustees to declare that the district or subdistrict is not the primary provider of emergency ambulance service within the district; declare status for secondary providers of emergency ambulance service; require that the additional tax moneys allowed for being a primary provider are no longer allowable; and require local governments providing secondary emergency ambulance service within the district or subdistrict within the boundaries of the county containing the largest population within the district boundaries to credit the amount of taxes paid by taxpayers of the district or subdistrict for emergency ambulance service to the taxes owed to the local government by the taxpayer.

Action

Senate State Governor

House Bill 89

Title AN ACT relating to dually employed retirement system members.

Sponsors J. Tipton, D. Graham, J. Graviss

Summary of Original Version Amend KRS 61.545 to provide that if a member is working in a regular full-time hazardous duty position that participates in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System or the County Employees Retirement System and is simultaneously employed in a nonhazardous position that is not considered regular full-time, the member shall participate solely as a hazardous duty member and shall not participate under the nonhazardous position unless he or she makes an election within 30 days of taking employment in the nonhazardous position; amend KRS 61.680 to conform; specify that provisions shall only apply to prospective nonhazardous employment occurring on or after the effective date of the Act.

Summary Retain original provisions, except to specify that the part-time nonhazardous employment must be with a different participating employer and that the provisions shall only apply to initial employment in a part-time nonhazardous position.

Action Senate State Government

House Bill 97

Title AN ACT relating to First Responder Recognition Day.

Sponsors C. Massey, C. Freeland

Summary of Original Version Create a new section of KRS Chapter 2 to designate the first Saturday of October of each year as "First Responder Recognition Day"; require the Governor to proclaim the date each year and require state flags to be lowered on state public buildings from sun-up to sun-down on that day.

Action Senate State Government

House Bill 184

Title AN ACT relating to fire protection and making an appropriation therefor.

Sponsors R. Rothenburger, J. Blanton, A. Bowling, D. Lewis, P. Pratt

Summary of Original Version Amend KRS 95A.520 and 95A.540, relating to volunteer fire department mergers, to make it applicable to volunteer fire departments merging prior to the effective date of the Act; create a new section of KRS Chapter 95A to provide that for volunteer fire departments merging after the effective date of the Act, the Fire Commission shall pay to the departments the number of qualified shares of volunteer fire department aid each is entitled to for a period of 20 years after the date of the merger, upon the expiration of which the merged department shall receive only one share; provide contingency protocols if the merged fire department becomes unqualified; amend KRS 95A.540 to apply contingency protocols of new volunteer fire department for fire departments merging prior to the effective date of the act; create a new section of KRS Chapter 95A to provide a contingency protocol if a new volunteer fire department is created out of the merged one during the 20 year period; amend KRS 95A.262 to increase the volunteer fire department aid to \$15,000 annually from \$11,000 annually.

Action State and Local Government Committee

House Bill 207

Title AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Retirement Systems.

Sponsor J. Miller

Summary of Original Version Housekeeping legislation for the Kentucky Retirement Systems;

Action in Senate State Government

House Bill 271

Title AN ACT relating to death-in-line-of-duty benefits and declaring an emergency.

Sponsor J. Blanton

**Summary of
Original
Version**

Amend KRS 16.601 and 61.621 to remove provisions which reduce line of duty or duty-related death benefits upon remarriage; establish non-codified sections to: provide that an eligible surviving spouse who has subsequently remarried shall have their benefit increased; provide that an eligible surviving spouse of a member whose death was determined by the systems to be a direct result of an act in line of duty or a duty-related injury, but chose to receive monthly death benefits in lieu of line of duty benefits, shall receive line of duty or duty-related death monthly benefits; provide that Kentucky Retirement System shall establish process by which a surviving spouse of a member who died prior to retirement and prior to April 13, 2018, may apply for the line of duty death benefits; EMERGENCY.

Action **Signed by the Governor**

House Bill 305

Title AN ACT relating to consolidated emergency services districts and making an appropriation therefor.

Sponsors C. Massey, S. Santoro, R. Rothenburger, B. Wheatley

No Action this session

House Bill 324

Title AN ACT relating to a tax credit for volunteer firefighters.

No action this session.

House Bill 329

No action this session.

House Bill 343

Title AN ACT relating to supplemental payments to police officers.

Sponsor M. Prunty

Summary of Original Version Amend KRS 15.420 to include members of joint task forces who do not currently receive an annual supplement.

No Action this session.

House Bill 351

Title AN ACT relating to governmental operations and declaring an emergency

Department of Revenue Bill

"Professional firefighter" means any member of a paid municipal fire department organized under KRS Chapter 95, 67A, or 67C, a fire protection district organized under KRS Chapter 75,[or]a county fire department created pursuant to KRS Chapter 67, or any firefighter employed by an air board created under KRS Chapter 183;

delivered to Governor

House Bill 352

Title AN ACT relating to appropriations and revenue measures providing financing and conditions for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and its various officers, cabinets, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, subdivisions, agencies, and other state-supported activities.

Sponsor S. Rudy

delivered to Governor

House Bill 357

Title AN ACT relating to emergency medical services professions reciprocity.

Sponsors D. Frazier, S. Rudy

**Summary of
Original
Version**

Amend KRS 311A.142 to require reciprocity of certification or licensure for any member of the United States military who is registered by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians as an emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician, or paramedic; grant reciprocity to any emergency medical responder, emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical

technician, or paramedic that is currently certified or licensed and is in good standing with a state contiguous to Kentucky.

Action **signed by Governor**

House Bill 375

Title AN ACT relating to reorganization.

Sponsors M. Hart, J. Tipton

Summary of Original Version Amend KRS 95A.020 to define "chief fire officer"; change the name of the Commission on Fire Protection Personnel Standards and Education to the Kentucky Fire Commission; attach the commission to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System for administrative purposes; require the commission to have male, female, and minority representation; require that no more than three appointed members reside in the same congressional district; reduce the number of members from 17 to 14; change the qualifications for certain members appointed to the commission by the Governor; amend various sections to conform.

Action **Signed by the Governor**

House Bill 427

Title AN ACT relating to special license plates and making an appropriation.

Sponsor K. Upchurch

**Summary of
Original
Version**

Amend KRS 186.162, regarding special license plates, to reiterate that the county clerk's fee charged is the standard clerk's fee for vehicle registration; establish extra fees for the firefighters special license plate to benefit the Kentucky Volunteer Firefighters Association; establish extra fee for the Masonic special license plate to benefit the Masonic Homes of Kentucky; set fees for special license plates established under KRS 186.164; eliminate the requirement for a special license plate for motorcycle to have 300 signatures; amend KRS 186.040 to conform; APPROPRIATION

03/02/20 • to Transportation (S)

House Bill 436

Title AN ACT relating to mental health and making an appropriation therefor.

Sponsor K. Banta

**Summary of
Original
Version**

Amend KRS 210.365 to make firefighters eligible for crisis intervention team training along with law enforcement officers currently permitted such training; amend KRS 95A.220 with an appropriation of \$1,250,000 each fiscal year for treatment of full-time and volunteer firefighters affected by post-traumatic stress injury (PTSI) and/or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); allow no PTSD eligibility for disability retirement; declare legitimate personnel actions not compensable, diagnosis required by psychiatrist, psychologist or counselor; APPROPRIATION.

No Action this session

House Bill 479

Title AN ACT relating to policemen's and firefighters' retirement funds of the urban-county governments.

Sponsors S. Lee, R. Palumbo, J. Blanton, G. Brown Jr, K. Flood, J. Graviss, P. Pratt, C. Stevenson

**Summary of
Original
Version**

Amend KRS 67A.440 to delete the provision that a surviving spouse's retirement benefit shall end upon remarriage; amend KRS 67A.450 to provide that for members of policemen's and firefighters' retirement funds of urban-county governments who would have been eligible for voluntary retirement at the time of their death, which is not in the line of duty, an annuity death benefit shall not be provided to the surviving spouse and provide that a deceased member otherwise eligible for a voluntary service retirement is presumed to have retired on the date of death calculated with credit for accumulated sick leave credit; amend KRS 67A.462 to prevent a member on disability retirement from holding a sworn position as an elected, paid, or volunteer peace officer, firefighter, paramedic, or other position of public safety/hazardous duty, and permit the board of trustees to make reasonable investigations, including hearings, to ensure compliance with disability provisions; amend KRS 67A.492 to provide a surviving minor child or children annuity in addition to the retirement benefits for surviving spouses and, based on factors including whether the surviving spouse is eligible for benefits and the number of minor children, set the benefits at between 50% and 75% of a member's final annuity, final rate of pay, or service retirement, whichever is greater, and allow benefit to extend to adult children between 18 and 23 enrolled in full-time educational activities; amend KRS 67A.530 to provide that retired fund members voting for representatives to the board of trustees shall vote for nominees of the department, police or fire, from which the member retired; amend KRS 67A.560 ensuring statutory and regulatory compliance with the Internal Revenue Code, applicable federal regulations, and published guidance; amend KRS 67A.660 to require the board to fix the time for a rehearing at the board's next scheduled meeting after the filing of the application.

04/01/20

- 2nd reading, to Rules

House Bill 484

Title AN ACT relating to retirement.

Sponsors R. Webber, M. Meredith, K. Banta, J. Blanton, T. Bojanowski, K. Bratcher, G. Brown Jr, T. Burch, L. Elkins, D. Frazier, C. Freeland, C. Fugate, J. Gooch Jr., D. Hale, M. Hart, R. Heath, S. Heavrin, C. Howard, T. Huff, J. Jenkins, S. Lewis, S. Maddox, C. Massey, B. McCool, R. Meyer, J. Nemes, P. Pratt, M. Prunty, B. Reed, R. Rothenburger, B. Rowland, S. Rudy, S. Santoro, J. Sims Jr, W. Thomas, K. Upchurch, B. Wheatley, L. Yates

Action

04/07/20 • **signed by Governor**

House Bill 513

Title AN ACT relating to firefighters and making an appropriation therefor.

Sponsor M. Hart

Summary of Original Version Amend KRS 95A.210 to allow firefighters employed by air boards created under KRS Chapter 183 to participate in the Firefighters Foundation Program fund.

Action **Language added to HB 351 Passed and delivered to the Governor**