

2018 Legislative Wrap-up

Introduction

The 2018 Legislative Session produced several pieces of legislation that will have a direct impact on Kentucky's teachers, education support professionals, and school systems. The following is a summary of what these pieces of legislation are and how they impact KEA members and other education stakeholders.

All legislation referenced below was either signed by the Governor into law or became law without the signature of the Governor. The Budget and Revenue bills were enacted by legislative override of the Governor's veto.

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LEGISLATION IMPACTING ALL SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

HB 2

Workman's Compensation

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Limits the period of payment of medical expenses for certain permanent partial disabilities to 780 week/15 years but provides allows for extending benefits.
- No fee for injured workers who requests an initial copy of medical records.
- The four-year period to reopen a granted or denied benefits claim begins on the date of the original claim ruling.
- Benefits stop when the claimant reaches age 67 or two years after the date of injury, whichever happens last.
- A claimant must be employed for a minimum of a year to be eligible for any claim regarding hearing loss.

HB 147

Epilepsy Education

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Requires every public school to provide a seizure education program
- Requires a minimum of one hour of self-study review of seizure disorder materials annually for all principals, guidance counselors, and teachers, education support professionals

HB 158

Life Insurance

KEA Support

- Allows Kentucky public school employees to obtain life insurance under the state-sponsored group life insurance program.

HB 200

Budget

KEA Support Free Conference Committee Report (final legislative compromise) and Support veto override

- Executive Branch Budget. For more information visit: [KEA State Budget Information](#)
 - Preserved P-12 education from drastic cuts
 - Increased funding for FRYSC's, SEEK
 - Restored Transportation Funding
 - Added funding for counties that had losses of revenue due to unmined mineral assessment changes

HB 366

Revenue & Tax Revenue

KEA Support

- For more information regarding Revenue & Tax Reform visit [KEA State Budget Information](#)

LEGISLATION IMPACTING TEACHERS

HB 3

Essential Work Ethics

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Establishes “Essential Work Ethics program” curriculum for Kentucky students K-12
- Adds this language to practical living standards
- Adds drug abuse education

HB 30

Suicide Prevention

KEA Support

- All middle and high school teachers, principals, and counselors are required to attend two hours of in-person suicide prevention professional development training every other school year
- Newly hired staff members to receive a packet of information on suicide prevention when the person is hired in a year training is not provided.

HB 128

Holocaust Studies

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Requires every Kentucky Middle and High School to provide instruction on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide.

HB 132

Financial Literacy and Graduation

KEA Oppose

- Requires a financial literacy course as a high school graduation requirement standard for the financial literacy course

HB 142

Allotment of School District Funds

KEA Support

- Requires the state school officer to prepare estimates for school district fund allotment and establish an incremental schedule for distribution of those funds.

HB 147

Epilepsy Education

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- All principals, guidance counselors, and teachers are required to attend an annual one-hour self-study of seizure disorder materials.

HB 158

Life Insurance

KEA Support

- Allows Kentucky public school employees to obtain life insurance under the state-sponsored group life insurance program.

LEGISLATION IMPACTING **TEACHERS** (CONTINUED)

HB 200

Budget

KEA Support final legislative compromise & Support veto override

- Executive Branch Budget. For more information visit: [KEA State Budget Information](#)
 - Preserved P-12 education from drastic cuts
 - Increased funding for FRYSC's, SEEK
 - Restored Transportation Funding
 - Added funding for counties that had losses of revenue due to unmined mineral assessment changes

HB 366

Revenue & Tax Revenue

KEA Support

- For more information regarding Revenue & Tax Reform visit [KEA State Budget Information](#)

LEGISLATION IMPACTING EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS

HB 2

Workman's Compensation

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Limits the period of payment of medical expenses for certain permanent partial disabilities to 780 week/15 years but provides allows for extending benefits.
- No fee for injured workers who requests an initial copy of medical records.
- The four-year period to reopen a granted or denied benefits claim begins on the date of the original claim ruling.
- Benefits stop when the claimant reaches age 67 or two years after the date of injury, whichever happens last.
- A claimant must be employed for a minimum of a year to be eligible for any claim regarding hearing loss.

HB 3

Essential Work Ethics Program

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Establishes "Essential Work Ethics program" curriculum for Kentucky students
- Adds this language to practical living standards
- Adds drug abuse education

HB 30

Suicide Prevention

KEA Support

- All middle and high school teachers, principals, and counselors are required to attend two hours of in-person suicide prevention professional development training every other school
- Newly hired staff members to receive a packet of information on suicide prevention when the person is hired in a year training is not provided.

HB 147

Epilepsy Education

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- All principals, guidance counselors, and teachers are required to attend an annual one-hour self-study of seizure disorder materials.

HB 158

Insurance

KEA Support

- Allows Kentucky public school employees to obtain life insurance under the state-sponsored group life insurance program.

SB 151

Pensions

KEA Opposed

For specific details of what is and what is not in this bill, please visit [Analysis of SB 151 with Commentary](#).

KEA and the Fraternal Order of Police have joined Attorney General Andy Beshear in a lawsuit that asks the courts to consider if SB 151 is legal based on the procedure in which it was passed and how it may violate the inviolable contract.

HJR 190

School Bus Drivers

KEA Support

- Recognize May 1 of every year as "School Bus Driver Day".

LEGISLATION IMPACTING RETIREES

SB 151

Pensions

KEA Opposed

- For specific details of what is and what is not in this bill, please visit [Analysis of SB 151 with Commentary](#).
- KEA and the Fraternal Order of Police have joined Attorney General Andy Beshear in a lawsuit that asks the courts to consider if SB 151 is legal based on the procedure in which it was passed and how it may violate the inviolable contract.

LEGISLATION IMPACTING SCHOOL SYSTEMS

HB 2

Workman's Compensation

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- A claimant must be employed for a minimum of a year to be eligible for any claim regarding hearing loss.

HB 3

Essential Work Ethics Program

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Establishes "Essential Work Ethics program" curriculum for Kentucky students
- Includes this language in the practical living standards
- Adds drug abuse education

HB 30

Suicide Prevention

KEA Support

- All middle and high school teachers, principals, and counselors are required to attend two hours of in-person suicide prevention professional development training every other school
- Newly hired staff members to receive a packet of information on suicide prevention when the person is hired in a year training is not provided.

HB 142

Allotment of School District Funds

KEA Support

- Requires the state school officer to prepare estimates for school district fund allotment and establish an incremental schedule for distribution of those funds.

HB 147

Epilepsy Education

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- All principals, guidance counselors, and teachers are required to attend an annual one-hour self-study of seizure disorder materials.

LEGISLATION IMPACTING SCHOOL SYSTEMS (CONT)

HB 158

Life Insurance

KEA Support

- Allows Kentucky public school employees to obtain life insurance under the state-sponsored group life insurance program.

HB 187

Dyslexia

KEA Oppose

- Each local board of education must develop policies for identifying and assisting students in kindergarten through grade three with dyslexia and other learning disabilities.
- Requires school districts to report data to the Department of Education regarding dyslexia screening and results.
- Requires the commissioner of education to select three school districts to serve as dynamic laboratories of learning.
- Requires local boards of education to develop policies related to the implementation of response-to-intervention.

HB 200

Budget

KEA Support final legislative compromise & Support veto override

- Executive Branch Budget. For more information visit: [KEA State Budget Information](#)
 - Preserved P-12 education from drastic cuts
 - Increased funding for FRYSC's, SEEK
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HB 290

Home School Participation in Public School Sports Competition

KEA Oppose

- Allows home-schooled students to form athletic teams and compete against public schools in sports permitted, offered or sanctioned by KHSAA.

HB 366

Revenue & Tax Revenue

KEA Support

- For more information regarding Revenue & Tax Reform visit [KEA State Budget Information](#)

HB 367

Dyslexia Trust Fund

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Creates a dyslexia trust fund to be administered by the Kentucky Department of Education to finance grants to school districts for support of students identified with characteristics of dyslexia.

LEGISLATION IMPACTING SCHOOL SYSTEMS (CONT)

HB 434

Definitions of Educational Institution and Qualified Educational Expenses

KEA Oppose

- Changes the definition of “educational institution” and “qualified educational expenses” within the Educational Savings Trust Plan.
- Redefines institution of higher education as an “**Educational institution**” which includes all elementary or secondary public, private, or religious schools.
- “**Qualified Educational Expenses**” is redefined to include elementary and secondary education expenses, tuition of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per year regarding enrollment and/or attendance at an elementary or secondary public, private, or religious school.

SB 71

Abstinence Education

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Requires inclusion of abstinence education in any human sexuality or sexually transmitted diseases curriculum.

SB 73

Professional Development

KEA Support

- Establishes a pilot program for performance-based professional development projects
- Parameters for programs are determined by the local board of education
- Sunsets the granting of nontraditional instruction days after the 2020-2021 year

SB 101

Vacancy Notice Change

KEA Oppose

- Reduces the vacancy notice required from a superintendent to the chief state school officer from 30 days to 15 days.

SB 140

Change Notice Requirement

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Changes notice requirements and changes duty to report to the commissioner of education, and require certification of compliance.

SB 152

Compensation for Classroom Teachers

KEA Track, (neither support nor oppose)

- Allow school districts to provide compensation in addition to that provided in the single salary schedule for all classroom teachers in a school identified as being in targeted or comprehensive support and improvement status.

SR 103

Honoring Energy-Efficient School Districts

KEA Support

- Honor the top five energy-efficient school districts in Kentucky for 2017.

