

# **2022 SPECIAL SESSION**

## **EASTERN KENTUCKY STATE AID FOR EMERGENCIES**



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**HB1 of the Special Session creates the Eastern Kentucky State Aid Funding for Emergencies (EKSAFE) and adds additional dollars to the Western Kentucky State Aid Funding for Emergencies (WKSAFE) to provide aid to those affected by the December 2021 tornadoes and the July 2022 floods. The EKSAFE fund will aid all the counties identified in the Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster due to the July floods.**

**HB1 will provide \$212.6M in funding for the EKSAFE and WKSAFE funds.**

- **\$75M to the Division of Emergency Management**
- **\$45M to the State Highway Fund to address damaged roads**
- **\$40M to the Department of Education for wrap-around services including after-school activities and mental health services, school repairs, and additional transportation costs associated with displaced students.**
- **\$40M to cover costs for school districts and utilities while they await reimbursement from FEMA and insurance claims.**
- **\$12.6 million from the American Rescue Plan Act State Fiscal Recovery Fund to repair water and sewer infrastructure damaged by flooding.**

**HB1 will also waive up to 15 student days district wide. Those days that are waived will count toward contract days for all certified and classified staff. Additionally, affected districts have the ability to use up to 20 remote learning days, which do not have to be used district wide. The Commissioner of Education will have authority to waive additional days (beyond 15) on a per school basis for schools that were closed on days that the closure was not district wide. HB1 will allow school districts to grant emergency leave days for educators dealing with ongoing issues from the flooding.**

**The additional dollars for the WKSAFE fund are to address significant lost property tax revenue due to lower assessments as a result of storm damage in the area.**

