SB 150 - COVID-19 Relief bill provides the following:

- Waives the seven-day waiting period for collecting unemployment benefits
- Allows employees who have not lost jobs but had hours cut back to be eligible for unemployment
- Changes the state deadline for filing income taxes for the 2019 tax year to be the same as the federal deadline, which has been extended to July 15
- Permits restaurants with a license to sell liquor by the drink to sell such drinks in conjunction with takeout food orders
- Authorizes the use of state funds to support the state's COVID-19 hotline operated by the Kentucky Poison Control Center
- Lifts restrictions on telehealth services to make it easier for health professionals to contact clients remotely instead of in person
- Allows the governor to waive state licensing, renewal, application fees and allows him to waive or reduce paperwork and administrative requirements as he believes necessary for people or businesses ordered to close or alter their operations due to the pandemic
- Extends from three to ten days the deadline for public agencies to respond to Open Records Act requests, and it allows them to deny on-site inspection of records if the agency's offices are temporarily closed to the public
- Suspends the Open Meetings Act to allow public agencies to hold live audio or live video-teleconference meetings and suspends the deadlines for local government governing boards to make decisions on matters such as planning, zoning, land use or code enforcement
- Establishes immunity for local businesses that create or provide personal protective equipment or personal hygiene supplies if they do not normally do so
- Requires the governor to declare in writing the day that the COVID-19 state of emergency has ceased. If the governor does not, then the General Assembly can declare when the emergency has ended after it comes into its next regular session
SB 177 - COVID-19 School Relief Bill provides the following relief for public education:

- Allows unlimited Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) Days as needed during the COVID-19 crisis
- Allows districts that do not have an NTI plan to submit a plan for approval by the Commissioner of Education (all Kentucky public school districts have now submitted a plan)
- Allows flexibility for districts to adjust calendars and instructional days to meet the requirement of a minimum of 1062 hours student instructional time
- Allows superintendents to grant paid emergency leave to any full-time or part-time classified or certified employee as needed during the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Directs the Kentucky Department of Education to seek federal waivers to allow for school districts to be reimbursed under the federal School Lunch Act

(The Department has requested these waivers and have been approved)

- Allows non-congregate meal settings and reduces mandatory wait times between meals while districts are closed for the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Allows the Kentucky Board of Education to waive the statewide assessment and accountability system with federal waivers

(KBE has requested & been granted federal waiver for state assessments for this year)

- Directs KDE to seek and utilize any federal waivers involving requirements of IDEA
- Allows local boards of education to revise district certified evaluation plans due to COVID-19 emergency
- Allows principals to award the number of educational enhancement opportunity days needed for graduating students to meet military or post-secondary education enrollment
- Allows written notices of non-renewal or salary adjustments to be delivered by email or regular mail
- Allows SEEK funding to be based on the average daily attendance of the 2018-2019 academic year
- All provisions are retroactive to March 6th and went into effect upon governor’s signature on March 25th

*Due to the emergency clause in SB 177, the law went into effect March 25th & are retroactive to March 6, 2020*