

KEA President's Points

March 9, 2018



The Kentucky Education Association is the preeminent voice for quality public education.

We unite, organize and empower members to advocate for themselves and to ensure a quality public education for every Kentucky student.

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Dear Member,

Earlier today the Senate was scheduled to take a vote on SB 1, everyone was confident that they had the votes to send the bill to the House, that is...until we showed up! Educators from across Kentucky poured into the Capitol building to hold their legislators accountable. Our members were amazing, we chanted so loudly at times that Senators had a difficult time hearing the proceedings inside the Senate Chamber. After a long day of caucus meetings the Senate announced that SB 1 would be recommitted to committee and no vote would be taken today. Thank you to everyone who showed up to speak out and help delay this vote.



PENSION NEWS



CALL TO ACTION: Senate leadership made it clear today that this issue isn't dead. We must keep up the pressure! Please contact your legislators EVERY DAY and let them know that **SB 1-as amended by SCS 1** is not the answer to our pension problem. The answer is to simply **FUND IT!** The House version of the Budget includes **FULL FUNDING** for pensions. Please tell legislators to keep this funding without harmful structural changes that will not attract or retain public school employees. Call, email, or visit your legislators and tell them your public school students' funding needs. The Legislative Message Line is 1-800-372-7181.

BUDGET NEWS:

[HB 200](#) the State Executive Branch Budget bill is currently in the possession of Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee who should begin hearings in the coming weeks. Please continue to talk with your Senator and encourage them to support [HB 366](#) (the enhanced revenue bill) in the House and work to find additional revenue to restore the cuts to public education.

BILL WATCH

Education Committee Update:

The House Education Committee met on Tuesday. Here is a recap of the action taken at the meeting.

[HB 247](#) An act relating to student scholarships and declaring an emergency advanced from committee. Creates a new section of KRS 164.7871 to 164.7885 to allow the use of KEES funds for dual credit courses; require KHEAA to promulgate administrative regulations to administer the section; amend KRS 164.7874 to require KEES recipients to complete the FAFSA; amend KRS 164.7879 to revise the criteria for and amount of KEES base awards; provide for an annual increase in KEES base awards based on the Consumer Price Index; amend KRS 164.7884 to allow KEES funds to be used for qualified workforce training programs; amend KRS 164.7885 to limit a student's KEES disbursement based on federal and state financial aid received and allow rollover of remaining KEES funds; amend KRS 164.786 to sunset the dual credit scholarship program on June 30, 2022; EMERGENCY.
KEA is Tracking this bill

[HB 434](#) An act relating to the Kentucky Educational Savings Plan Trust advanced from committee. Amend KRS 164A.305, relating to the Educational Savings Plan Trust, to define "educational institution" and "qualified educational expenses" in conformance with Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code; include elementary and secondary schools in the definitions; amend various sections of the Kentucky Revised Statutes to conform; repeal KRS 164A.360. **KEA is Opposed to this bill**

[HB 586](#) An act relating to the maintenance of teacher certification advanced from committee. Amend KRS 161.095 to require the Education Professional Standards Board to extend the validity period of a

certificate of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States of America by one year for each year the member is determined by the board to have been prohibited by military service or training from pursuing an advanced degree or completing professional development required to maintain certification; require the Education Professional Standards Board to promulgate administrative regulations to establish an application process and develop guidelines for the process by which education or professional development is considered to have been prohibited by military service. **KEA Supports this bill**

The House Education Committee met again on Wednesday March 7 to hear HB 595 for "discussion only", no vote was taken by the committee at Wednesday's meeting.

HB 595 An act relating to school districts. Amend KRS 160.041 to provide a merger process for contiguous school districts; require an insolvent district to be merged with a contiguous school district; require the Kentucky Board of Education to promulgate regulations regarding mergers due to insolvency. **KEA is Opposed to this bill**

On Thursday, March 8 the Senate Education Committees met and heard five bills.

SB 152 An act relating to teacher compensation advanced from committee. Amend KRS 157.390 to 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. **KEA is Tracking this bill**

SB 202 An act relating to the Council on Postsecondary Education advanced from committee. Amend KRS 164.013 to make the employment of a search firm optional when filling the position of the Council on Postsecondary Education president; delete the requirement that the president's compensation exceed that of any public university president. **KEA has no position on this bill**

SB 228 An act relating to athlete agents advanced from committee. Amend KRS 164.6901 to rename KRS 164.6901 to 164.6935 the Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act; amend KRS 164.6903 to revise the definitions of "athlete agent" and "student-athlete"

and to define "educational institution," "enrolled," "interscholastic sport," "licensed, registered or certified professional," "recruit or solicit," and "sign"; amend KRS 164.6907 to clarify time period for submitting an application; amend KRS 164.6909 expand the requirements for an athlete agent application form and the registration process; amend KRS 164.6911 clarify reasons for which registration may be denied and the license renewal process; amend KRS 164.6913 to clarify reasons for refusing to issue or to suspend or revoke a registration; create a new section of KRS 164.6901 to 164.6935 to allow the department to issue a temporary license; amend KRS 164.6915 to establish a fee to renew a registration based on registration in another state; amend KRS 164.6917 to specify requirements for an agency contract; amend KRS 164.6919 to specify communication requirements an athlete agent must meet; amend KRS 164.6921 to include parents or guardians of minor student-athletes; amend KRS 164.6923 to require an athlete agent to create records; amend KRS 164.6925 to clarify actions prohibited by athlete agents; amend KRS 164.6929 to allow student-athletes as well as educational institutions to bring action for damages and increase civil penalty from \$25,000 to \$50,000; amend KRS 164.6933 clarify the interaction of KRS 164.6901 to 164.6935 with regard to federal electronic signatures statutes. **KEA has no position on this bill**

[SB 237](#)- An act relating to freedom of speech at public postsecondary education institutions advanced from committee.

Amend KRS 164.348 to require public postsecondary institutions to adopt policies ensuring the protection of freedom of speech and expression by students and faculty; require policies to be made available to students and faculty; create a cause of action for a violation of any policy required by the Act. **KEA has no position on this bill**

[HB 132](#)-An act relating to financial literacy advanced from committee as amended by Senate Committee Substitute.

Create a new Chapter of KRS 158 to require a financial literacy course as a high school graduation requirement; direct the Kentucky Board of Education to promulgate administrative regulations establishing academic standards for the financial literacy course; direct the Department of Education to develop curricula, materials, and guidelines which may be used

by schools for the financial literacy course. **KEA is
Opposed to this bill**

Dates to Remember:



March 1-31 [Vote](#) for statewide NEA RA Delegates

Mar. 16-18 NEA Leadership Summit, Chicago

Sincerely,

Stephanie Winkler

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