



Weekly Legislative Report

KACP KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 4

Friday marked the 41st day of the 60-day regular session. The final bill filing tally for the session: Senate, 382 bills; House, 783.

THE LATEST ON LEGISLATION

A NOTE ON LEGISLATION: The session has hit a point where it is apparent many bills will not move or be voted on this session. Those include bills KACP supports, opposes and has been monitoring. For the sake of brevity, those bills have been removed from the report. If any of those bills begin to move, they will be returned to the legislative report.

Legislation filed that addresses major KACP legislative priorities.

HOUSE

[HB565](#), Virtual training

Filed by Rep. Kim Moser, this KACP priority legislation passed unanimously out of the House Local Government Committee this week. KACP Executive Director Shawn Butler joined Rep. Moser and KLC's Bryanna Carroll in testifying in favor of the bill, which requires DOCJT to offer some basic training and annual in-service instruction virtually. The legislation now awaits a vote by the full House, which could happen as early as Tuesday.



[HB239](#), Constables

The legislation, filed by Rep. Adam Koenig, impacts constables elected in 2022 and in the future by requiring that they receive law enforcement training. The bill has passed the House and awaits action in the Senate. It is currently in the Committee on Committees.

SENATE

[SB206](#), Employment contracts

Filed by Sen. Johnny Turner, R-Harlan, the bill will extend law enforcement contracts to four years. Sen. Phillip Wheeler, R-Pikeville, who has been a staunch KACP supporter, co-sponsored the bill. Adjustments are being made to include university and airport officers. Hopefully, the bill will be heard this week by the Senate Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee.

[HB730](#), medical transport and admissions

Filed by Reps. Josh Bray, R-Mount Vernon, and Samara Heavrin, R-Leitchfield, the bill seeks to clarify who is designated to transport patients and who has responsibility for the costs associated with a medical transport. Other aspects of the bill: Decreases the period a person may be held pending certification from 18 to 12 hours; amends existing law to establish that a **sheriff or certified law enforcement officer shall not be required to stay at a facility accepting a patient unless the person is charged with a criminal offense.** Assigned to House Committee on Committees and awaiting committee assignment.

ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION KACP IS SUPPORTING

HB48, False reporting of crimes

Filed by Rep. Phillip Pratt of Georgetown, the bill increases the penalties for falsely reporting an incident that results in an emergency response and creates a new law to allow law enforcement to seek civil damages arising from the false reporting of a crime. Passed House, awaiting action in the Senate Judiciary Committee

HB56 First responder COVID-19 death benefits

Sponsored Rep. Thomas Huff, R-Shepherdsville, the bill which would be retroactive, would amend the current statute on death benefits to include COVID-19 on the list of illnesses that can qualify a deceased first responder's family – including the families of law enforcement – for death benefits of \$80,000. The bill is retroactive, meaning any first responders who have died due to COVID-19 complications since March 2, 2020, would qualify. Passed House, assigned to Senate Appropriations & Revenue Committee

HB137, KLEFPF payments

Filed by Rep. Melinda Gibbons Prunty, R-Belton, the bill would allow the following to receive KLEFPF training stipend: An officer serving on a joint task force; and investigator employed by a county attorney; a process server for juvenile courts within a consolidated local government. Passed House, awaiting action in Senate Appropriations & Revenue Committee

HB154, DUI blood tests

Filed by Rep. Patrick Flannery, the bill would remove the penalty enhancement for refusal of a blood test. Passed House; assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee.

HB329, Enhanced criminal penalties for crimes committed during an emergency

Filed by Rep. Ed Massey, R-Hebron, the House Judiciary Chairman, the bill provided enhanced penalties for criminal offenses, including theft, during a declared emergency. This bill was inspired by incidents and reports of looting following the recent western Kentucky tornadoes. Passed out of committee, awaiting action by the full House.

HB335, KLEC appointments

Filed by Rep. Adam Bowling, R-Middlesboro, the bill gives the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) and Kentucky Assoc of Counties (KACO) the ability to submit names to the Governor for consideration on KLEC. Passed out of House Local Government Committee. Passed House; awaiting action in the Senate; Assigned to Senate State & Local Government Committee, which could hear the bill on Wednesday.

HB414, Public safety personnel

Filed by Rep. John Blanton, R-Salyersville, the bill would make it easier for cities to recruit and retain public's safety personnel by making changes to current law, including removing the age limit for new hire and limitations to the number of retired police officers a city is allowed to employ. It would also allow agencies to operate under an 80-hour, 14-day work period instead of a 40-hour, seven-day period. Bill could be voted on this week by the Senate Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee.

HB479, Related to Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund

Filed by Rep. Chris Fugate, R-Chavies, the bill deletes reference to the payment made from the fish and game fund under definition of a “police officer” for fish and wildlife conversation officers and makes the funding source the Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program. Assigned to House Committee on Committees.

HB562, First responders

Filed by Rep. Ashley Tackett Laferty, D-Martin, the will would allow a law enforcement officer to take 48 hours leave after being involved in a critical incident. Assigned to House Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee.

SENATE

SB63, Personal information

Filed by Sen. Danny Carroll, R-Benton, would exempt records revealing a law enforcement officers address from Open Records requests; would also allow officers to request that their personally identifiable information be designated as confidential and not publicly posted. Passed by the Senate, awaiting House committee assignment.

SB96, KLEC

Filed by Sen. Mike Wilson, R-Bowling Green, and Sen. Danny Carroll, R-Benton, the bill would include the Bowling Green Police Department on the KY Law Enforcement Council (KLEC). Passed Senate; assigned to House Committee on Committees. The legislation now awaits a vote by the full House, which could happen as early as Tuesday.

LEGISLATION KACP TRACKING/MONITORING

HOUSE

HB63, School Resource Officers (SROs)

Filed by Rep. Kevin Bratcher, R-Louisville, the bill would require school districts that can afford a school resource officer at each school to have them in place by Aug. 1. If funds or personnel are not available, the bill directs the school district to work with the state Center for School Safety to address those issues. Passed the House, awaiting action in the Senate Education Committee.

SENATE

SB176, Facial recognition technology

Filed by Sen. Whitney Westerfield, R-Crofton, the bill requires the KLEC to adopt a model facial recognition technology by Jan. 1, 2023, to govern the use of facial technology recognition technology. Assigned to Senate Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee.

LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

March 31 to April 12 – 10-day veto recess

April 13 and 14 – Final two days of session

Click [here](#) to see the 2022 session calendar

FOR MORE INFO

As always, questions, suggestions, comments or concerns can be directed to Executive Director Shawn Butler, who can be reached at 859-743-2920 or sbutler@kypolicechiefs.org or KACP lobbyist Patrick Crowley, who can be reached at 859-462-4245 or pcrowley@strategicadvisersllc.com

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