

Jamie Link
Secretary
Education and Labor Cabinet

## Dr. Robbie Fletcher Commissioner of Education

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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May 15, 2025

Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue Jennifer Hays, Committee Staff Administrator 700 Capital Ave.
Frankfort, KY 40601

RE: SAFE 4860 Fund Report (May 2025)

Dear Co-Chairs Senator McDaniel and Representative Petrie:

House Bill 544 (R.S. 2025) established the State Aid Funding for Emergencies 4860 Fund (SAFE 4860 fund) to provide financial support to those directly impacted by the severe storms, straight-line winds, flooding, and landslides that occurred beginning on February 14, 2025. Pursuant to House Bill 544, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is required to report to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue by the fifteenth day of each month, beginning May 15, 2025, and ending July 15, 2029. The report is to include the name of each school district receiving SAFE 4860 funds; the dollar amount of funds issued and the dates of issuance; the dollar amount of any proceeds received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, an insurance company, or any other means of reimbursement for damages; a description of how the funds were used; and a list of all requests submitted. The list of submitted requests shall include the amount requested, any denials with the reason for denial, and if the award is more or less than requested, an explanation for the increase or decrease.

Please allow this letter to serve as the required report. No school districts currently receive SAFE 4860 funds, and no districts have submitted a request. KDE is not aware of any school district having received funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, an insurance company, or any other means of reimbursement for damages.

If members of the Committee have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email or phone number below.

Sincerely,

Matthew Ross

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Cc: Chay Ritter, KDE Division Director, Office of Finance and Operations Karen Wirth, KDE Division Director, Office of Finance and Operations Dr. Brian Perry, KDE Director of Government Relations