

Kentucky Family Law Legislative Update

2026 Regular Session
CLE Presentation Deck

2026 FAMILY LAW UPDATE

- 5 min — Legislative overview
- 10 min — Domestic violence and protective orders
- 10 min — Child welfare, adoption, and CASA updates
- 10 min — Family court practice impacts
- 5 min — Practical takeaways and discussion
- 5 min — Questions

Top 10 Things Practitioners Need to Know page 1

- 1. Domestic violence practice saw the greatest impact.
- 2. HB 611 expands reporting requirements.
- 3. HB 521 affects stalking and protective-order practice.
- 4. Preserve electronic evidence early.
- 5. HB 778 affects adoption/dependency practice.
- 6. HB 669 addresses foster child benefits.
- 7. SB 17 affects CASA practice.
- 8. HB 6 impacts child-care stability issues.
- 9. SB 122 affects parent-child considerations.
- 10. Core divorce/custody statutes remain largely unchanged.

Top 10 Things Practitioners Need to Know page 2

- 6. HB 669 addresses foster child benefits.
- 7. SB 17 affects CASA practice.
- 8. HB 6 impacts child-care stability issues.
- 9. SB 122 affects parent-child considerations.
- 10. Core divorce/custody statutes remain largely unchanged.

HB 611 — Domestic Violence Reporting

- Acts Ch. 49
- Protective order data collection changes
- Representation and reporting information
- Electronic JC-3 reporting

HB 521 — Stalking and Protective Orders

- Acts Ch. 67
- Updates stalking definitions
- Addresses electronic/social media conduct
- Preserves existing protective orders

HB 778 — Adoption and Child Welfare

- Adoption-related provisions
- Dependency proceedings
- Placement and permanency considerations

HB 669 and SB 17 — Child Welfare

- HB 669: foster child benefits
- SB 17: CASA-related changes
- Impact on dependency practice

HB 6 — Child Care and Custody

- Child-care framework changes
- Family stability considerations
- Potential relevance to best-interest factors

HB 657 — Professional Qualifications

- Background checks for certain professionals
- Impacts evaluators and service providers

SB 122 — Family Preservation

- Parent-child relationship considerations
- Criminal/family law overlap
- Alternative sentencing concepts

Closing Practice Checklist

- Update intake forms
- Preserve digital evidence
- Review protective-order histories
- Coordinate related proceedings
- Monitor future legislative changes