

HB 762

Investing in Public Defense

Implementation: Progress, Impact, and the Work Ahead

Implementation Update

*Progress, Impact, and
the Work Ahead*



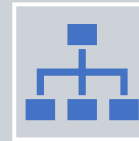
Swift Implementation of HB 762.



Meaningful benefits for DPA attorneys.



Mechanism for representation of all indigent persons is unresolved.



Commitment to Collaboration.

HB 762: What Changed for DPA

Two major
implementation
areas:

Scope of Indigent
Representation

DPA Attorney
Compensation

Scope of Indigent Representation

DPA no longer responsible for certain proceedings, including:

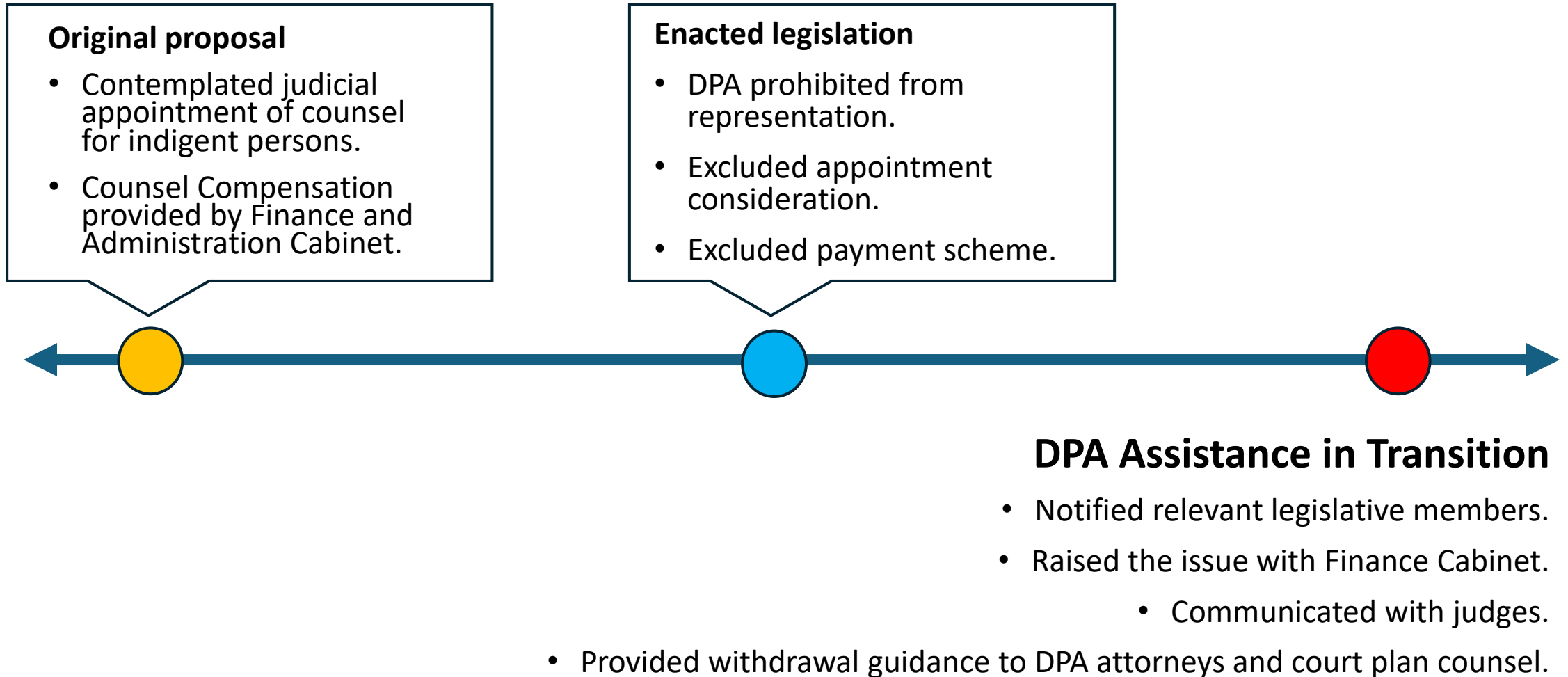
Child support contempt

Tim's Law: serious mental illness

Casey's Law: substance use intervention

KRS Chapter 202A: involuntary hospitalization

An Unresolved Question: Appointment & Compensation for Counsel



***The Work
Ahead:***

***A Workable
Representation
System***

- Assist in **identifying gaps** in appointment of counsel for indigent persons.
- Work collaboratively with courts and the General Assembly to **develop a system of compensation** for appointed counsel.
- Help to ensure **meaningful access to counsel** for all indigent persons.

DPA Attorney Compensation



Legislation authorized increased compensation.

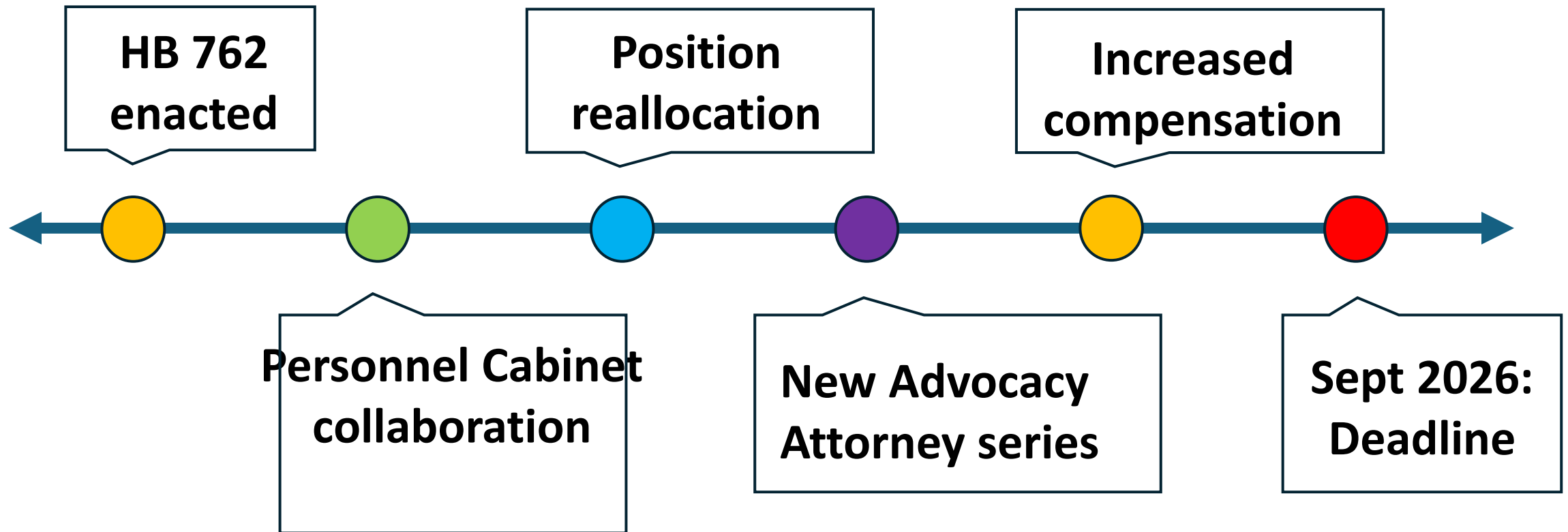


Required creation of new class of positions for implementation.



September statutory deadline for implementation.

Implementing the Attorney Pay Increase



The Impact: Benefits to Retention and Recruitment

Immediately Realized:

- Positive feedback from employees
- Recognition of the value and complexity of public defense work

Future Benefits:

- Greater competitiveness in recruiting
- Retention of Kentucky Talent
- Overall retention improvement

The Impact: What the Change Means to Our People

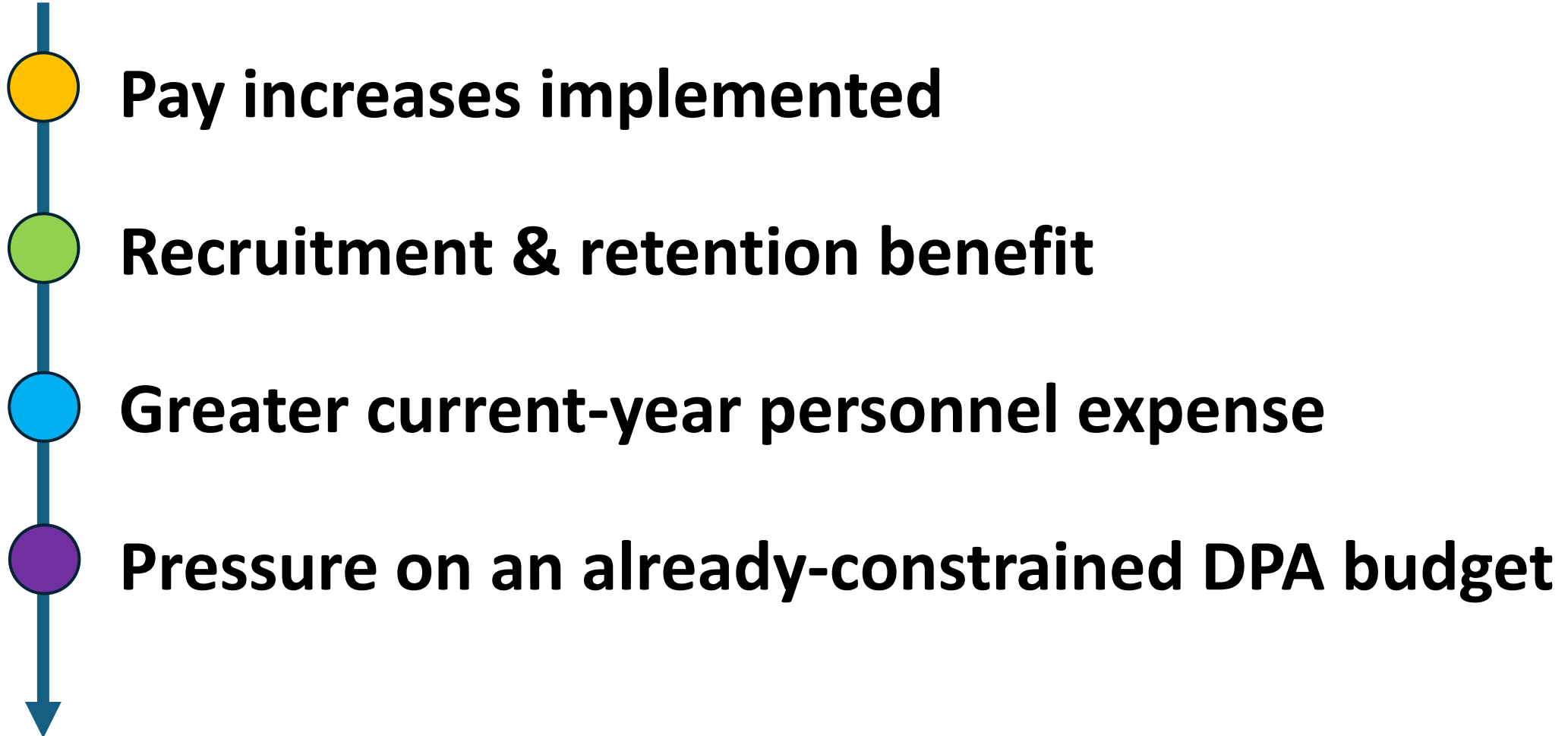
Immediately Realized:

- S.H., leader, decided to stay
- K., J., & J. “No longer entertaining” leaving.
- R.C. has decided to put off his retirement

Future Benefits:

- K.M. Returned
- R., T., & C will not be looking to leave in the future.
- E.M. intern, has decided to join us after graduation in May.

The Impact: Budget Insufficiency



The Work Ahead:

DPA Priorities

- **Monitor** the impact of the Attorney Advocacy Structure.
- **Evaluate** recruiting and retention to identify benefits of raises.
- **Assess** the financial impact and resulting reductions in other areas of service.
- **Report** findings to the General Assembly in request to restore and increase the DPA budget.

***DPA's
Commitment
to the
Commonwealth***

A stable public defense system that serves all citizens of the Commonwealth and provides meaningful representation to Kentuckians who cannot afford an attorney.