

## **KY PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION: PROPOSED CHANGES TO SB 71**

The Kentucky Public Library Association proposes revisions to the original version of SB 71 that would create a streamlined process to ensure local control and removing Frankfort from the equation. Our proposal still offers an alternative process, as passed in SB 167 of 2022, for those who choose it, instead of a top-down mandate from Frankfort. We also concur with Sen. Boswell's proposal in the original version of SB 71 to remove KDLA as the middle man in the nominations process.

Outlined below is the current process/alternative process for library board appointments, as well as the proposed process under KPLA's proposed revisions to the original SB 71.

### **Current process for library board nominations, as adopted in SB 167 of 2022:**

Main/current process:

1. The local library board recommends the names of two people to the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives to fill a vacancy or replace a member.
2. The Department for Libraries and Archives has 30 days to vet those candidates and then make the recommendation to the county judge.
3. The county judge, with the approval of the fiscal court, selects one of those candidates.

OR, if the fiscal court has adopted the alternative process (approximately 20 fiscal courts have adopted this process since 2022):

1. The local library board recommends the names of two people to the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives to fill a vacancy or replace a member.
2. The Department for Libraries and Archives has 30 days to vet those candidates and then make the recommendation to the county judge.
3. The county judge, with the approval of the fiscal court, selects one of those candidates. If the county judge rejects those candidates, another round of candidates is brought forth as outlined above in steps one and two.
4. If the county judge decides not to select a candidate from two rounds of nominations supplied by KDLA, the judge can then bring forth their own candidate to present to the fiscal court for a vote.

### **Proposed process per KPLA's revisions to SB 71:**

Normal nomination path:

1. The local library board recommends the names of two people directly to the county judge for selection.
2. Within 30 days, the county judge selects one of those candidates to present to the fiscal court for approval.

Alternative process for those fiscal courts who choose to adopt it:

1. The local library board recommends the names of two people directly to the county judge for selection.
2. Within 30 days, the county judge selects one of those candidates to present to the fiscal court for approval.
3. If the county judge decides not to select a candidate from the one round supplied by the local library board, the judge can then bring forth their own candidate to present to the fiscal court for a vote.

**QUESTIONS? Please contact Jena Scott at 859-967-3717 or [jscott@govplan.com](mailto:jscott@govplan.com).**