

171.530 Retention and recovery of records -- Preservation and availability of certain records for Governor-elect.

- (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the commission shall establish standards for the selective retention of records of continuing value, and the department shall assist state and local agencies in applying such standards to records in their custody. The department shall notify the head of any such agency of any actual, impending, or threatening unlawful removal, defacing, alteration, or destruction of records in the custody of such agency that has come to its attention, and initiate action through the agency head or Attorney General for the recovery of such records as shall have been unlawfully removed and for such other redress as may be provided by law.
- (2) (a) For a period of twelve (12) months prior to the date of a gubernatorial inauguration, all documents that are public records as defined in KRS 61.870 shall be preserved for the Governor-elect and his or her gubernatorial transition team if the subject matter includes:
 1. Contracts that have been granted, altered, or amended;
 2. Appointments to boards and commissions;
 3. Permits and licenses granted and revoked;
 4. Pardons;
 5. Pay raises, promotions, and grade level changes of executive branch employees;
 6. Litigation; or
 7. Any record relating to campaign donations of any kind.
- (b) On the day after the Governor-elect is determined, the Governor shall make available to the Governor-elect and his or her gubernatorial transition team all public records pertaining to the subjects referenced in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

Effective: July 15, 2026

History: Amended 2026 Ky. Acts ch. 178, sec. 15, effective July 15, 2026. -- Amended 1982 Ky. Acts ch. 245, sec. 5, effective July 15, 1982. -- Amended 1970 Ky. Acts ch. 92, sec. 40. -- Created 1958 Ky. Acts ch. 49, sec. 13.