



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING SENATE BILL 4 OF THE 2026 REGULAR SESSION

I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

Senate Bill 4 of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.


Senate Bill 4 is special legislation that violates Sections 59 and 60 of Kentucky's Constitution by attempting to control common schools. The bill targets the Jefferson County and Fayette County boards of education by changing board membership for only large public school districts, which by definition can only be Louisville and Lexington. The bill would reorganize the Jefferson County Board of Education by changing its membership from seven members to five, and diminish representation of voters.

The bill also improperly targets large school districts by prohibiting people from serving on these boards if they are employees of any school district in the Commonwealth and work more than 100 days per year. Of course, our dedicated teachers and school employees work more than 100 days per year, and this would effectively keep them from serving on these boards of education. Once again, our public teachers and school employees must go another year, at least, without the General Assembly providing them a raise.

Decisions regarding reorganization of these boards of education and all others across Kentucky should be made locally by the people who live there, not the General Assembly in Frankfort.

For these reasons, I am vetoing Senate Bill 4.

This, the 13th day of April, 2026.


Andy Beshear
Governor

Received
Office of the Senate Clerk
APR 13 2026
O. R. H. 3 4:19pm