



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 77 OF THE 2026 REGULAR SESSION

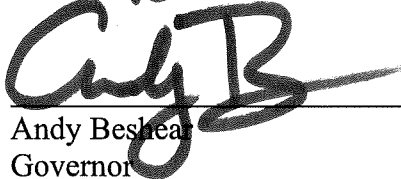
I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

Senate Bill 77 of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

The opioid epidemic is one of the largest challenges our Commonwealth has ever faced. To address this crisis, my administration expanded access to treatment and recovery services, supported broad naloxone distribution programs and expanded safe syringe exchange programs. As a result, overdose deaths have decreased for three straight years. Senate Bill 77 would send state taxpayer dollars to companies conducting clinical trials of ibogaine. The bill picks one treatment and one drug, and not a class of potential treatments or drugs. This raises the concern that this legislation is meant to pay a specific company. Moreover, the bill places the funds with the Department of Agriculture instead of the Office of Drug Control Policy. Finally, the bill would directly invest in private companies, something prohibited by the Kentucky Constitution.

For these reasons, I am vetoing Senate Bill 77.

This, the ^{13th} day of April, 2026.


Andy Beshear
Governor

Received
Office of the Senate Clerk
APR 13 2026
Q. D. H. 3 4:18 pm