



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 626 OF THE
2016 REGULAR SESSION

I, Matthew G. Bevin, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky State Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

House Bill 626 of the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

The veto of House Bill 626 should not, in any way, be misconstrued as a negative reflection on the laudable goals of educating and preparing students for higher education and career success. Moreover, this veto will not preclude these important education and workforce initiatives from advancing with the funding and program authorization contained in House Bill 303.

I share the goals of the legislators who supported House Bill 626. However, there were hastily written and overly broad provisions included in House Bill 626 that should not be enshrined in statute. The Work Ready Scholarship provisions outlined in House Bill 626 do not permit funding to be targeted based on true need and, with limited funding, may leave behind those student with the greatest need. These provisions can be more clearly defined in the future to ensure that funds made available provide the greatest return on investment.

Additionally, limitations outlined in House Bill 626 for the Workforce Investment Fund may unintentionally limit certain needed investments that will provide the most benefit to citizens in the Commonwealth.

This the 27th day of April, 2016


Matthew G. Bevin
Governor