



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MATTHEW G. BEVIN
GOVERNOR

VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 204 OF THE
2018 REGULAR SESSION

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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 parts of House Bill 204:

Page 1, line 19: "Notwithstanding any statutes to"

Page 1, line 20: "the contrary, no"

Intentionally underfunding the Legislators Retirement Plan might make for good political optics, but it makes zero financial sense. Failure to adequately fund pensions today will simply cost taxpayers more in the future. If the General Assembly wants to send a message that pensions for politicians are not important, they can take action to eliminate them, which I would strongly support. So long as the Legislators Retirement Plan exists, it should be funded. Decisions to underfund pensions such as this, have led our other systems to the brink of collapse. In order to be fiscally responsible, rather than politically expedient, I am vetoing the above portions of House Bill 204 to require the Legislative Research Commission to fund this required obligation of the Commonwealth out of the Legislative Branch Budget.

This the 13th Day of April, 2018

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor