

**CHAPTER 136****( HB 154 )**

AN ACT relating to schools.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 160.180 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) As used in this section, "relative" means father, mother, brother, sister, husband, wife, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law.
- (2) No person shall be eligible to membership on a board of education:
  - (a) Unless he has attained the age of twenty-four (24) years; and
  - (b) Unless he has been a citizen of Kentucky for at least three (3) years preceding his election and is a voter of the district for which he is elected; and
  - (c) Unless he has completed at least the twelfth grade or has been issued a GED certificate or has received a high school diploma through participation in the external diploma program and he is elected after July 13, 1990; and
  - (d) An affidavit signed under penalty of perjury certifying completion of the twelfth grade or the equivalent as determined by passage of the twelfth grade equivalency examination held under regulations adopted by the Kentucky Board of Education has been filed with the nominating petition required by KRS 118.315; or
  - (e) Who holds a state office requiring the constitutional oath or is a member of the General Assembly; or
  - (f) Who holds or discharges the duties of any civil or political office, deputyship, or agency under the city or county of his residence; or
  - (g) Who, at the time of his election, is directly or indirectly interested in the sale to the board of books, stationery, or any other property, materials, supplies, equipment, or services for which school funds are expended; or
  - (h) Who has been removed from membership on a board of education for cause; or
  - (i) Who has a relative as defined in subsection (1) of this section employed by the school district and is elected after July 13, 1990. However, this shall not apply to a board member holding office on July 13, 1990, whose relative was not initially hired by the district during the tenure of the board member.
- (3) If, after the election of any member of the board, he becomes interested in any contract with or claims against the board, of the kind mentioned in paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of this section, or if he moves his residence from the district for which he was chosen, or if he attempts to influence the hiring of any school employee, except the superintendent of schools or school board attorney, or if he does anything that would render him ineligible for reelection, he shall be subject to removal from office pursuant to KRS 415.050 and 415.060.
- (4) A board member shall be eligible for reelection unless he becomes disqualified.
- (5) The annual in-service training requirements for all school board members *in office as of December 31, 2014*, shall be as follows:
  - (a) Twelve (12) hours for school board members with zero to three (3) years of experience;
  - (b) Eight (8) hours for school board members with four (4) to seven (7) years of experience; and
  - (c) Four (4) hours for school board members with eight (8) or more years of experience.

The Kentucky Board of Education shall identify the criteria for fulfilling this requirement.
- (6) (a) *For all board members who begin their initial service on or after January 1, 2015, the annual in-service training requirements shall be twelve (12) hours for school board members with zero to eight (8) years of experience and eight (8) hours for school board members with more than eight (8) years of experience; and*

**(b) Training topics for school board members shall include:**

1. *Three (3) hours of finance, one (1) hour of ethics, and one (1) hour of superintendent evaluation annually for members with zero to three (3) years experience;*
2. *Two (2) hours of finance, one (1) hour of ethics, and one (1) hour of superintendent evaluation annually for members with four (4) to seven (7) years experience; and*
3. *One (1) hour of finance, one (1) hour of ethics, and one (1) hour of superintendent evaluation biennially for members with eight (8) or more years experience.*

*The Kentucky Board of Education shall identify criteria for fulfilling this requirement.*

➔Section 2. KRS 160.431 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The local district superintendent shall appoint a finance officer who shall be responsible for the cash, investment, and financial management of the school district.
- (2)
  - (a) *A person initially employed as a school finance officer on or after July 1, 2015, shall obtain certification from the Department of Education prior to holding the position and entering the duties of the position of school finance officer.*
  - (b) *The Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations to prescribe the criteria and procedures to be used in the certification process for a school finance officer.*
  - (c) *The administrative regulations promulgated under this subsection shall specify:*
    1. *The initial qualification requirements for school finance officer certification;*
    2. *The certification application and appeal process; and*
    3. *The certification renewal process.*
- (3) The school finance officer shall be required to complete forty-two (42) hours of continuing education every two (2) years from a provider approved by the Department of Education. *The Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations to identify and prescribe the criteria for fulfilling the requirements of this subsection. The administrative regulations shall specify:*
  - (a) *The topics of continuing education;*
  - (b) *Qualifications for continuing education providers;*
  - (c) *Consequences for failure to meet the continuing education requirement; and*
  - (d) *Requirements for reinstatement of school finance officer certification.*
- (4)
  - (a) *The finance officer shall present a detailed monthly financial report for board approval to include the previous month's revenues and expenditures of the district. The monthly report shall be posted on the district Web site for a minimum of six (6) months after its approval.*
  - (b) *Within six (6) months following the end of each fiscal year, the finance officer shall submit to the Kentucky Department of Education a detailed annual financial report to include the district's total assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenditures. The annual report shall be posted on the district Web site and department Web site for a minimum of two (2) years.*
  - (c)
    1. *The Department of Education shall review each district's annual financial report and shall provide, within two (2) months of receipt, the local board of education a written report indicating the financial status of the district. The department's written report shall be posted on the department Web site and the district Web site for a minimum of two (2) years.*
    2. *The commissioner of education shall annually present to the Interim Joint Committee on Education a copy of the department's written report for each district.*
  - (d) *Nothing in this subsection shall lessen the obligation of a school district to publish its financial statements in accordance with the provisions of KRS 424.220.*

➔Section 3. KRS 156.111 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Prior to July 1, 1992, the Department of Education shall establish a Superintendents Training Program and Assessment Center. The assessment center shall be modeled after the American Association of School Administrators assessment process or a similar validated process. The department may provide assessment

centers regionally and shall provide for assessor training. The center shall include, but not be limited to, training for superintendents in the following subjects:

- (a) Core concepts of management;
  - (b) School-based decision making;
  - (c) Kentucky school law;
  - (d) Kentucky school finance; and
  - (e) School curriculum and assessment.
- (2) At the conclusion of the training, each participant shall complete a written comprehensive examination based on the content of the training.
- (3) In addition to any applicable certification and experience requirements, to be qualified and eligible for continued employment as a school superintendent, effective July 1, 1994, the school superintendent shall have successfully completed the assessment center process. A person hired for the first time as superintendent in Kentucky after June 30, 1994, shall successfully complete the assessment center process within one (1) year of assuming his duties as superintendent.
- (4) The Kentucky Board of Education shall adopt administrative regulations to govern the training content, number of hours, written examination, and criteria for successful completion of the training and assessment center process. The board shall also establish the continuing professional development requirements for school superintendents *to include, at a minimum, three (3) hours of annual training in school finance and three (3) hours of annual training in ethics*~~[, to be effective July 1, 1994].~~

➔Section 4. KRS 161.020 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) (a) No person shall be eligible to hold the position of superintendent, principal, teacher, supervisor, director of pupil personnel, or other public school position for which certificates may be issued, or receive salary for services rendered in the position, unless he or she holds a certificate of legal qualifications for the position, issued by the Education Professional Standards Board.
- (b) *No person seeking initial employment as a school finance officer on or after July 1, 2015, shall be eligible to hold the position of school finance officer unless the person holds a certificate of legal qualification for the position, issued by the Kentucky Department of Education.*
- (2) No person shall enter upon the duties of a position requiring certification qualifications until his or her certificate has been filed or credentials registered with the local district employer.
- (3) The validity and terms for the renewal of any certificate shall be determined by the laws and regulations in effect at the time the certificate was issued.

**Signed by Governor April 25, 2014.**