

CHAPTER 173**(HB 204)**

AN ACT making appropriations for the operations, maintenance, and support of the Legislative Branch of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

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

➔Section 1. The Legislative Branch Budget is as follows:

PART I**OPERATING BUDGET**

Funds Appropriations: Funds are appropriated to the Legislative Research Commission for the Legislative Branch of government out of the General Fund and Restricted Funds accounts for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, and for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2020, in the following discrete sums, or so much thereof as may be necessary. Each appropriation is made by the source of respective fund or funds accounts to be used for the purposes of the Legislative Branch of government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

	2018-19	2019-20
1. General Assembly		
General Fund	18,211,700	19,020,700
Restricted Funds	75,000	175,000
TOTAL	18,286,700	19,195,700

(1) **Legislators Retirement and Compensation:** Notwithstanding any statutes to the contrary, no funding is provided for the actuarially required contributions to the Legislators Retirement Plan. Notwithstanding KRS 6.190 and 6.213, the daily compensation provided by KRS 6.190 and the interim expense allowance provided by KRS 6.213 for members of the General Assembly shall remain at the January 1, 2018, level.

(2) **Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission:** Included in the above General Fund appropriation is \$541,500 in fiscal year 2018-2019 and \$543,600 in fiscal year 2019-2020 for the Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission. Included in the above Restricted Funds appropriation is \$75,000 in fiscal year 2018-2019 and \$175,000 in fiscal year 2019-2020 for the Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission.

(3) **Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center:** Notwithstanding KRS 7B.010 to 7B.090, operation of the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center and its governing board shall continue to be suspended effective July 1, 2018, and shall remain suspended for the 2018-2020 fiscal biennium or until funding is restored. No funds are appropriated for the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center for fiscal year 2018-2019 and fiscal year 2019-2020.

(4) **Pension Benefit Increase:** Notwithstanding KRS 6.521(3), no pension benefit increase shall be granted to recipients of a retirement allowance under KRS 6.500 to 6.577 on July 1, 2018, or July 1, 2019.

	2018-19	2019-20
2. Legislative Research Commission		
General Fund	50,396,000	51,141,800

(1) **Permanent Full-time Employees:** The total number of permanent full-time employees hired by the Legislative Research Commission with the above appropriation, and not assigned specifically to the House and Senate members of the Legislative Research Commission, shall not exceed 232 in fiscal year 2018-2019 and 232 in fiscal year 2019-2020. In addition to this number, the total number of permanent full-time employees assigned specifically to the House members of the Legislative Research Commission shall not exceed 19 and the permanent full-time employees assigned specifically to the Senate members of the Legislative Research Commission shall not exceed 10.

TOTAL - OPERATING BUDGET

	2018-19	2019-20
General Fund	68,607,700	70,162,500

Restricted Funds	75,000	175,000
TOTAL	68,682,700	70,337,500

Unexpended Balance: Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, any unexpended balance remaining at the close of fiscal year 2017-2018 shall not lapse but shall continue into fiscal year 2018-2019, and any unexpended balance in any succeeding fiscal year shall not lapse but shall continue into the following fiscal year.

TOTAL - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH BUDGET

	2018-19	2019-20
General Fund	68,607,700	70,162,500
Restricted Funds	75,000	175,000
TOTAL	68,682,700	70,337,500

PART II

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Expenditure Authority: The Director of the Legislative Research Commission, under the supervision of the Legislative Research Commission, may expend any of the funds appropriated for legislative operation and administration in any lawful manner and for any legal purpose consistent with the policies and practices of the Commission. No executive agency or statute governing the executive agencies of state government shall have the power to restrict or limit the actions of, or the expenditure of funds appropriated to, the Legislative Research Commission for the Legislative Branch of government.

2. Capitol and Capitol Annex Capital Construction Expenditures: Any expenditure authorized by the Director of the Legislative Research Commission, under the supervision of the Legislative Research Commission, relating to implementation of KRS 56.463(4)(b), or relating to the Capitol Building, and funded by previous or current appropriations to the Legislative Research Commission for the Legislative Branch of government shall not be governed by KRS 7A.010, 7A.120, 45.750 to 45.810, 48.010(16), 48.020, and 48.110.

3. Severability of Budget Provisions: Appropriation items and sums in this Act conform to KRS 48.311. If any section, any subsection, or any provision thereof shall be invalid or unconstitutional, the decision of the courts shall not affect or impair any of the remaining sections, subsections, or provisions.

4. Duplicate Appropriation: Any appropriation item and sum in this Act and in an appropriation provision in another Act of the 2018 Regular Session of the General Assembly which constitutes a duplicate appropriation shall be governed by KRS 48.312.

5. Priority of Individual Appropriations: KRS 48.313 shall control when a total or subtotal figure in this Act conflicts with the sum of the appropriations of which it consists.

6. Appropriations Revisions: Proposed revisions to Restricted Funds appropriations in this Act shall be made and reported pursuant to KRS 48.630(10). The Director of the Legislative Research Commission may transfer any available funds between all appropriation units as needed to meet the constitutional requirements of the Legislative Branch for fiscal years 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020.

7. Allowance in Lieu of Stationery: Notwithstanding KRS 6.220, in lieu of stationery, there shall be allowed to each member of the House of Representatives the sum of \$250 and to each member of the Senate the sum of \$500. This allowance shall be paid out of the State Treasury at the beginning of each legislative session.

8. Issuance of Employee Paychecks: Notwithstanding 101 KAR 2:095, Section 10, the state payroll that would normally be scheduled to be paid on June 30, 2019, and June 30, 2020, shall not be issued prior to July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2020.

9. Salary Adjustments: In each fiscal year, employees of the Legislative Research Commission shall receive a salary adjustment in accordance with the salary adjustment provided to state employees in the state/executive branch budget.

10. Administrative Expenses: Pursuant to KRS 21.540, administrative expenses shall be paid out of an administrative account which shall be funded by transfers of the necessary moneys, in appropriate ratio, from the funds provided for in KRS 21.550 and 21.560.

PART III

FUNDS TRANSFER

The Legislative Branch shall transfer \$2,269,000 to the General Fund in each fiscal year.

PART IV**BUDGET REDUCTION OR SURPLUS EXPENDITURE PLAN**

The Legislative Branch shall participate in any Budget Reduction Plan or Surplus Expenditure Plan in accordance with the provisions of KRS Chapter 48.

Vetoed April 9, 2018. Veto overridden April 13, 2018. Became law April 14, 2018.