

AN ACT relating to reorganization.

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

➔Section 1. KRS 156.027 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The following definitions shall apply to this section:
 - (a) "Alternative format" means any medium or format for the presentation of instructional materials that is needed by a student with an individualized education program or Section 504 Plan for a reading accommodation other than standard print, including but not limited to Braille, large print, audio recordings, digital text, and digital talking books;
 - (b) "Braille," "individualized education program," and "blind students" have the same meaning as defined under KRS 158.281;
 - (c) "Comparable version" denotes that all elements of the print version are present in the electronic version, including graphics with ALT tags though not necessarily in the same order or format;
 - (d) "Legacy materials" means images and graphics requiring release and permission from another source other than the publisher; and
 - (e) "Section 504 Plan" means a written statement developed for a student with a disability that includes the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services designed to meet individual educational needs in accordance with the federal regulations issued under 34 C.F.R. sec. 104.33.
- (2) The purpose of this section shall be to assure, to the extent feasible, that all students with disabilities in the public schools kindergarten through grade twelve (12) who require reading accommodations in accordance with an individualized education program or Section 504 Plan, including but not limited to students who are blind, visually impaired, or who have a specific learning disability as defined in KRS 157.200 or other disability affecting reading, shall have access to textbooks and instructional materials as defined by administrative regulations of the Kentucky

Board of Education in alternative formats that are appropriate to their disability and educational needs.

- (3) Notwithstanding any other statute to the contrary, the Department of Education shall give preferential procurement status to textbook and instructional materials from publishers who make their materials available in alternative formats for use by students with disabilities, or who can verify that an accessible format textbook or instructional material is currently available from or is in the process of being created by the American Printing House for the Blind, Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic, or another authorized entity, as defined under 17 U.S.C. sec. 121 and who commonly provide alternative format materials for use by students in Kentucky schools. The Department of Education may assign additional procurement preferences designed to ensure that students with disabilities have access to appropriate alternative formats to meet their needs.
- (4) Effective July 1, 2003, the Department of Education shall require to the extent feasible any publisher of a textbook or program adopted for use in the public schools in kindergarten through grade twelve (12) to furnish computer files or electronic versions of the printed textbooks and instructional materials in formats comparable to the printed version that are compatible with commonly used Braille translation and speech synthesis software and include corrections and revisions as may be necessary to assure clarity in presentation and use. Navigation within and between files should be reasonably efficient so that the disabled learner is able to fully utilize the material in a manner that yields the same result as the print version affords a nondisabled learner. File format shall be limited to those formats that allow for a comparable version that is readable with text and screen readers such as HTML, XML, or other formats that meet the criteria stated in this subsection. For extreme cases where ALT tags are not feasible, a tag may read, "This item is too complicated to render with current technology." Legacy materials shall be exempt

from the criteria for this preference. These files shall be provided to the Department of Education~~[Division of Exceptional Children Services]~~ and shall be provided at the same time and in composition and form comparable with the printed version and include corrections and revisions as may be necessary to assure clarity in presentation and use. The Department of Education may define further requirements regarding additional characteristics of digital files submitted in compliance with this section as needed to provide appropriate alternative formats to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

- (5) The Department of Education shall require publishers to make digital files, together with two (2) copies of the print version, available at no charge upon request to the American Printing House for the Blind for production of accessible Braille and other materials and to Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic or another authorized entity, as defined under 17 U.S.C. sec. 121, for production of accessible audio media, digital text, and digital talking books, which produce accessible format materials based on selection and scheduling needs.
- (6) Nothing in this section shall in any way lessen the obligation of the public schools to provide for the instruction of blind students in the use of Braille in accordance with KRS 158.282 nor lessen the provision of Braille textbooks for blind students under KRS 156.476.

➔Section 2. KRS 157.360 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) (a) In determining the cost of the program to support education excellence in Kentucky, the statewide guaranteed base funding level, as defined in KRS 157.320, shall be computed by dividing the amount appropriated for this purpose by the prior year's statewide average daily attendance.
- (b) When determining the biennial appropriations for the program, the average daily attendance for each fiscal year shall include an estimate of the number of students graduating early under the provisions of KRS 158.142.

- (2) Each district shall receive an amount equal to the base funding level for each pupil in average daily attendance in the district in the previous year, except a district shall receive an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of the state portion of the average statewide per pupil guaranteed base funding level for each student who graduated early under the provisions of KRS 158.142. Each district's base funding level shall be adjusted by the following factors:
- (a) The number of at-risk students in the district. At-risk students shall be identified as those approved for the free lunch program under state and federal guidelines. The number of at-risk students shall be multiplied by a factor to be established by the General Assembly. Funds generated under this paragraph may be used to pay for:
 - 1. Alternative programs for students who are at risk of dropping out of school before achieving a diploma; and
 - 2. A hazardous duty pay supplement as determined by the local board of education to the teachers who work in alternative programs with students who are violent or assaultive;
 - (b) The number and types of exceptional children in the district as defined by KRS 157.200. Specific weights for each category of exceptionality shall be used in the calculation of the add-on factor for exceptional children; and
 - (c) Transportation costs. The per-pupil cost of transportation shall be calculated as provided by KRS 157.370. Districts which contract to furnish transportation to students attending nonpublic schools may adopt any payment formula which assures that no public school funds are used for the transportation of nonpublic students.
- (3) Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year and each year thereafter, the General Assembly shall annually allocate funds equal to one-half (1/2) of the state portion of the average statewide per pupil guaranteed base funding level for each student who

graduated early under the provisions of KRS 158.142 the previous school year to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority for deposit in the early graduation scholarship trust fund.

- (4) The program to support education excellence in Kentucky shall be fully implemented by the 1994-95 school year.
- (5)
 - (a) Except for those schools which have implemented school-based decision making, the commissioner of education shall enforce maximum class sizes for every academic course requirement in all grades except in vocal and instrumental music, and physical education classes. Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, the maximum number of pupils enrolled in a class shall be as follows:
 1. Twenty-four (24) in primary grades (kindergarten through third grade);
 2. Twenty-eight (28) in grade four (4);
 3. Twenty-nine (29) in grades five (5) and six (6);
 4. Thirty-one (31) in grades seven (7) to twelve (12).
 - (b) Except for those schools which have implemented school-based decision making, class size loads for middle and secondary school classroom teachers shall not exceed the equivalent of one hundred fifty (150) pupil hours per day.
 - (c) The commissioner of education, upon approval of the Kentucky Board of Education, shall adopt administrative regulations for enforcing this provision. These administrative regulations shall include procedures for a superintendent to request an exemption from the Kentucky Board of Education when unusual circumstances warrant an increased class size for an individual class. A request for an exemption shall include specific reasons for the increased class size with a plan for reducing the class size prior to the beginning of the next school year. A district shall not receive in any one (1) year exemptions for more classes than enroll twenty percent (20%) of the pupils in the primary

grades and grades four (4) through eight (8).

- (d) In all schools the commissioner of education shall enforce the special education maximum class sizes set by administrative regulations adopted by the Kentucky Board of Education. A superintendent may request an exemption pursuant to paragraph (c) of this subsection. A local school council may request a waiver pursuant to KRS 156.160(2). An exemption or waiver shall not be granted if the increased class size will impede any exceptional child from achieving his individual education program in the least restrictive environment.
- (6) In grades four (4) through six (6) with combined grades, the maximum class size shall be the average daily attendance upon which funding is appropriated for the lowest assigned grade in the class. There shall be no exceptions to the maximum class size for combined classes. In combined classes other than the primary grades, no ungraded students shall be placed in a combined class with graded students. In addition, there shall be no more than two (2) consecutive grade levels combined in any one (1) class in grades four (4) through six (6). However, this shall not apply to schools which have implemented school-based decision making.
- (7) If a local school district, through its admission and release committee, determines that an appropriate program in the least restrictive environment for a particular child with a disability includes either part-time or full-time enrollment with a private school or agency within the state or a public or private agency in another state, the school district shall count as average daily attendance in a public school the time that the child is in attendance at the school or agency, contingent upon approval by the commissioner of education.
- (8) Pupils attending a center for child learning and study established under an agreement pursuant to KRS 65.210 to 65.300 shall, for the purpose of calculating average daily attendance, be considered as in attendance in the school district in

which the child legally resides and which is party to the agreement. For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, teachers who are actually employees of the joint or cooperative action shall be considered as employees of each school district which is a party to the agreement.

- (9) Program funding shall be increased when the average daily attendance in any district for the first two (2) months of the current school year is greater than the average daily attendance of the district for the first two (2) months of the previous school year. The program funds allotted the district shall be increased by the percent of increase. The average daily attendance in kindergarten is the kindergarten full-time equivalent pupils in average daily attendance.
- (10) If the average daily attendance for the current school year in any district decreases by ten percent (10%) or more than the average daily attendance for the previous school year, the average daily attendance for purposes of calculating program funding for the next school year shall be increased by an amount equal to two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the decrease in average daily attendance. If the average daily attendance remains the same or decreases in the succeeding school year, the average daily attendance for purposes of calculating program funding for the following school year shall be increased by an amount equal to one-third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the decrease for the first year of the decline.
- (11) If the percentage of attendance of any school district shall have been reduced more than two percent (2%) during the previous school year, the program funding allotted the district for the current school year shall be increased by the difference in the percentage of attendance for the two (2) years immediately prior to the current school year less two percent (2%).
- (12) (a) Instructional salaries for vocational agriculture classes shall be for twelve (12) months per year. Vocational agriculture teachers shall be responsible for the following program of instruction during the time period beyond the regular

school term established by the local board of education: supervision and instruction of students in agriculture experience programs; group and individual instruction of farmers and agribusinessmen; supervision of student members of agricultural organizations who are involved in leadership training or other activity required by state or federal law; or any program of vocational agriculture established by the ~~Division of Career and Technical Education in the~~ Department of Education. During extended employment, no vocational agriculture teacher shall receive salary on a day that the teacher is scheduled to attend an institution of higher education class which could be credited toward meeting any certification requirement.

- (b) Each teacher of agriculture employed shall submit an annual plan for summer program to the local school superintendent for approval. The summer plan shall include a list of tasks to be performed, purposes for each task, and time to be spent on each task. Approval by the local school superintendent shall be in compliance with the guidelines developed by the Department of Education. The supervision and accountability of teachers of vocational agriculture's summer programs shall be the responsibility of the local school superintendent. The local school superintendent shall submit to the commissioner of education a completed report of summer tasks for each vocational agriculture teacher. Twenty percent (20%) of the approved vocational agriculture programs shall be audited annually by the State Department of Education to determine that the summer plan has been properly executed.
- (13) (a) In allotting program funds for home and hospital instruction, statewide guaranteed base funding, excluding the capital outlay, shall be allotted for each child in average daily attendance in the prior school year who has been properly identified according to Kentucky Board of Education administrative

regulations. Attendance shall be calculated pursuant to KRS 157.270 and shall be reported monthly on forms provided by the Department of Education; and

- (b) Pursuant to administrative regulations of the Kentucky Board of Education, local school districts shall be reimbursed for home and hospital instruction for pupils unable to attend regular school sessions because of short term health impairments. A reimbursement formula shall be established by administrative regulations to include such factors as a reasonable per hour, per child allotment for teacher instructional time, with a maximum number of funded hours per week, a reasonable allotment for teaching supplies and equipment, and a reasonable allotment for travel expenses to and from instructional assignments, but the formula shall not include an allotment for capital outlay. Attendance shall be calculated pursuant to KRS 157.270 and shall be reported annually on forms provided by the Department of Education.

- (14) Except for those schools which have implemented school-based decision making and the school council has voted to waive this subsection, kindergarten aides shall be provided for each twenty-four (24) full-time equivalent kindergarten students enrolled.
- (15) Effective July 1, 2001, there shall be no deduction applied against the base funding level for any pupil in average daily attendance who spends a portion of his or her school day in a program at a state-operated career and technical education or vocational facility.
- (16) During a fiscal year, a school district may request that the Department of Education recalculate its funds allocated under this section if the current year average daily attendance for the twenty (20) day school month as defined in KRS 158.060(1) that contains the most days within the calendar month of January exceeds the prior year adjusted average daily attendance plus growth by at least one percent (1%). Any adjustments in the allotments approved under this subsection shall be proportional

to the remaining days in the school year and subject to available funds under the program to support education excellence in Kentucky.

- (17) To calculate the state portion of the program to support education excellence in Kentucky for a school district, the Department of Education shall subtract the local effort required under KRS 157.390(5) from the calculated base funding under the program to support education excellence in Kentucky, as required by this section. The value of the real estate used in this calculation shall be the lesser of the current year assessment or the prior year assessment increased by four percent (4%) plus the value of current year new property. The calculation under this subsection shall be subject to available funds.
- (18) Notwithstanding any other statute or budget of the Commonwealth language to the contrary, time missed due to shortening days for emergencies may be made up by lengthening school days in the school calendar without any loss of funds under the program to support education excellence in Kentucky.

➔Section 3. KRS 161.220 is amended to read as follows:

As used in KRS 161.220 to 161.716 and 161.990:

- (1) "Retirement system" means the arrangement provided for in KRS 161.220 to 161.716 and 161.990 for payment of allowances to members;
- (2) "Retirement allowance" means the amount annually payable during the course of his natural life to a member who has been retired by reason of service;
- (3) "Disability allowance" means the amount annually payable to a member retired by reason of disability;
- (4) "Member" means the commissioner of education, deputy commissioners, associate commissioners, and all division directors in the State Department of Education, employees participating in the system pursuant to KRS 196.167(3)(b)1., and any full-time teacher or professional occupying a position requiring certification or graduation from a four (4) year college or university, as a condition of employment,

and who is employed by public boards, institutions, or agencies as follows:

- (a) Local boards of education;
- (b) Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State University, Murray State University, Western Kentucky University, and any community colleges established under the control of these universities;
- (c) State-operated secondary area vocational education or area technology centers, Kentucky School for the Blind, and Kentucky School for the Deaf;
- (d) The Education Professional Standards Board, other public education agencies as created by the General Assembly, and those members of the administrative staff of the Teachers' Retirement System of the State of Kentucky whom the board of trustees may designate by administrative regulation;
- (e) Regional cooperative organizations formed by local boards of education or other public educational institutions listed in this subsection, for the purpose of providing educational services to the participating organizations;
- (f) All full-time members of the staffs of the Kentucky Association of School Administrators, Kentucky Education Association, Kentucky Vocational Association, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, Kentucky Academic Association, and the Kentucky School Boards Association who were members of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System or were qualified for a position covered by the system at the time of employment by the association in the event that the board of directors of the respective association petitions to be included. The board of trustees of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System may designate by resolution whether part-time employees of the petitioning association are to be included. The state shall make no contributions on account of these employees, either full-time or part-time. The association shall make the employer's contributions, including any contribution that is specified under KRS 161.550. The provisions of this paragraph shall be applicable to

- persons in the employ of the associations on or subsequent to July 1, 1972;
- (g) Employees of the Council on Postsecondary Education who were employees of the Department for Adult Education and Literacy and who were members of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System at the time the department was transferred to the council pursuant to Executive Order 2003-600;
 - (h) The Office of Career and Technical Education~~[, except that the executive director shall not be a member];~~
 - (i) The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation;
 - (j) The Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children;
 - (k) The Governor's Scholars Program;
 - (l) Any person who is retired for service from the retirement system and is reemployed by an employer identified in this subsection in a position that the board of trustees deems to be a member;
 - (m) Employees of the former Cabinet for Workforce Development who are transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and who occupy positions covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System shall remain in the Teachers' Retirement System. New employees occupying these positions, as well as newly created positions qualifying for Teachers' Retirement System coverage that would have previously been included in the former Cabinet for Workforce Development, shall be members of the Teachers' Retirement System;
 - (n) Effective January 1, 1998, employees of state community colleges who are transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System shall continue to participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital insurance, and a retirement plan other than the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System offered by Kentucky Community and Technical College System. New employees occupying positions in the Kentucky Community and Technical

College System as referenced in KRS 164.5807(5) that would not have previously been included in the former Cabinet for Workforce Development, shall participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital insurance and have a choice at the time of employment of participating in a retirement plan provided by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, including participation in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, on the same basis as faculty of the state universities as provided in KRS 161.540 and 161.620;

- (o) Employees of the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Budget and Administrative Services, and the Office of Quality and Human Resources within the Office of the Secretary of the former Cabinet for Workforce Development and the commissioners of the former Department for Adult Education and Literacy and the former Department for Technical Education who were contributing to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System as of July 15, 2000; and
 - (p) Employees of the Kentucky Department of Education only who are graduates of a four (4) year college or university, notwithstanding a substitution clause within a job classification, and who are serving in a professional job classification as defined by the department.
- (5) "Present teacher" means any teacher who was a teacher on or before July 1, 1940, and became a member of the retirement system created by 1938 (1st Extra. Sess.) Ky. Acts ch. 1, on the date of the inauguration of the system or within one (1) year after that date, and any teacher who was a member of a local teacher retirement system in the public elementary or secondary schools of the state on or before July 1, 1940, and continued to be a member of the system until he, with the membership of the local retirement system, became a member of the state Teachers' Retirement System or who becomes a member under the provisions of KRS 161.470(4);

- (6) "New teacher" means any member not a present teacher;
- (7) "Prior service" means the number of years during which the member was a teacher in Kentucky prior to July 1, 1941, except that not more than thirty (30) years' prior service shall be allowed or credited to any teacher;
- (8) "Subsequent service" means the number of years during which the teacher is a member of the Teachers' Retirement System after July 1, 1941;
- (9) "Final average salary" means the average of the five (5) highest annual salaries which the member has received for service in a covered position and on which the member has made contributions, or on which the public board, institution, or agency has picked-up member contributions pursuant to KRS 161.540(2), or the average of the five (5) years of highest salaries as defined in KRS 61.680(2)(a), which shall include picked-up member contributions. Additionally, the board of trustees may approve a final average salary based upon the average of the three (3) highest salaries for members who are at least fifty-five (55) years of age and have a minimum of twenty-seven (27) years of Kentucky service credit. However, if any of the five (5) or three (3) highest annual salaries used to calculate the final average salary was paid within the three (3) years immediately prior to the date of the member's retirement, the amount of salary to be included for each of those three (3) years for the purpose of calculating the final average salary shall be limited to the lesser of:
 - (a) The member's actual salary; or
 - (b) The member's annual salary that was used for retirement purposes during each of the prior three (3) years, plus a percentage increase equal to the percentage increase received by all other members employed by the public board, institution, or agency, or for members of school districts, the highest percentage increase received by members on any one (1) rank and step of the salary schedule of the school district. The increase shall be computed on the

salary that was used for retirement purposes.

This limitation shall not apply if the member receives an increase in salary in a percentage exceeding that received by the other members, and this increase was accompanied by a corresponding change in position or in length of employment. This limitation shall also not apply to the payment to a member for accrued annual leave if the individual becomes a member before July 1, 2008, or accrued sick leave which is authorized by statute and which shall be included as part of a retiring member's annual compensation for the member's last year of active service;

- (10) "Annual compensation" means the total salary received by a member as compensation for all services performed in employment covered by the retirement system during a fiscal year. Annual compensation shall not include payment for any benefit or salary adjustments made by the public board, institution, or agency to the member or on behalf of the member which is not available as a benefit or salary adjustment to other members employed by that public board, institution, or agency. Annual compensation shall not include the salary supplement received by a member under KRS 157.197(2)(c), 158.6455, or 158.782 on or after July 1, 1996. Under no circumstances shall annual compensation include compensation that is earned by a member while on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. In the event that federal law requires that a member continue membership in the retirement system even though the member is on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section, the member's annual compensation for retirement purposes shall be deemed to be the annual compensation, as limited by subsection (9) of this section, last earned by the member while still employed solely by and providing services directly to a public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. The board of trustees shall determine if any benefit or salary adjustment qualifies as annual

compensation. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, annual compensation shall not include lump-sum payments upon termination of employment for accumulated annual or compensatory leave;

- (11) "Age of member" means the age attained on the first day of the month immediately following the birthdate of the member. This definition is limited to retirement eligibility and does not apply to tenure of members;
- (12) "Employ," and derivatives thereof, means relationships under which an individual provides services to an employer as an employee, as an independent contractor, as an employee of a third party, or under any other arrangement as long as the services provided to the employer are provided in a position that would otherwise be covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and as long as the services are being provided to a public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section;
- (13) "Regular interest" means interest at three percent (3%) per annum, except for an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, "regular interest" means interest at two and one-half percent (2.5%) per annum for purposes of crediting interest to the teacher savings account or any other contributions made by the employee that are refundable to the employee upon termination of employment;
- (14) "Accumulated contributions" means the contributions of a member to the teachers' savings fund, including picked-up member contributions as described in KRS 161.540(2), plus accrued regular interest;
- (15) "Annuitant" means a person who receives a retirement allowance or a disability allowance;
- (16) "Local retirement system" means any teacher retirement or annuity system created in any public school district in Kentucky in accordance with the laws of Kentucky;
- (17) "Fiscal year" means the twelve (12) month period from July 1 to June 30. The retirement plan year is concurrent with this fiscal year. A contract for a member

- employed by a local board of education may not exceed two hundred sixty-one (261) days in the fiscal year;
- (18) "Public schools" means the schools and other institutions mentioned in subsection (4) of this section;
- (19) "Dependent" as used in KRS 161.520 and 161.525 means a person who was receiving, at the time of death of the member, at least one-half (1/2) of the support from the member for maintenance, including board, lodging, medical care, and related costs;
- (20) "Active contributing member" means a member currently making contributions to the Teachers' Retirement System, who made contributions in the next preceding fiscal year, for whom picked-up member contributions are currently being made, or for whom these contributions were made in the next preceding fiscal year;
- (21) "Full-time" means employment in a position that requires services on a continuing basis equal to at least seven-tenths (7/10) of normal full-time service on a fiscal year basis;
- (22) "Full actuarial cost," when used to determine the payment that a member must pay for service credit means the actuarial value of all costs associated with the enhancement of a member's benefits or eligibility for benefit enhancements, including health insurance supplement payments made by the retirement system. The actuary for the retirement system shall determine the full actuarial value costs and actuarial cost factor tables as provided in KRS 161.400;
- (23) "Last annual compensation" means the annual compensation, as defined by subsection (10) of this section and as limited by subsection (9) of this section, earned by the member during the most recent period of contributing service, either consecutive or nonconsecutive, that is sufficient to provide the member with one (1) full year of service credit in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, and which compensation is used in calculating the member's initial retirement allowance,

excluding bonuses, retirement incentives, payments for accumulated sick, annual, personal and compensatory leave, and any other lump-sum payment. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, payments for annual or compensatory leave shall not be included in determining the member's last annual compensation;

- (24) "Participant" means a member, as defined by subsection (4) of this section, or an annuitant, as defined by subsection (15) of this section;
- (25) "Qualified domestic relations order" means any judgment, decree, or order, including approval of a property settlement agreement, that:
- (a) Is issued by a court or administrative agency; and
 - (b) Relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital property rights to an alternate payee; and
- (26) "Alternate payee" means a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a participant, who is designated to be paid retirement benefits in a qualified domestic relations order.

➔Section 4. KRS 194A.135 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities is created within the cabinet.
- (2) The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities is established to comply with the requirements of the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1984 and any subsequent amendment to that act.
- (3) The members of the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities shall be appointed by the Governor to serve as advocates for persons with developmental disabilities. The council shall be composed of twenty-six (26) members.
- (a) Ten (10) members shall be representatives of: the principal state agencies administering funds provided under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended; the state agency that administers funds provided under the

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); the state agency that administers funds provided under the Older Americans Act of 1965 as amended; the single state agency designated by the Governor for administration of Title XIX of the Social Security Act for persons with developmental disabilities; higher education training facilities, each university-affiliated program or satellite center in the Commonwealth; and the protection and advocacy system established under Public Law 101-496. These members shall represent the following:

1. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation;
 2. Office for the Blind;
 3. ~~Division of Exceptional Children, within the~~ Department of Education;
 4. Department for Aging and Independent Living;
 5. Department for Medicaid Services;
 6. Department of Public Advocacy, Protection and Advocacy Division;
 7. University-affiliated programs;
 8. Local and nongovernmental agencies and private nonprofit groups concerned with services for persons with developmental disabilities;
 9. Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities; and
 10. Department for Public Health, Division of Maternal and Child Health.
- (b) At least sixty percent (60%) of the members of the council shall be composed of persons with developmental disabilities or the parents or guardians of persons, or immediate relatives or guardians of persons with mentally impairing developmental disabilities, who are not managing employees or persons with ownership or controlling interest in any other entity that receives funds or provides services under the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1984 as amended and who are not employees of a state agency that receives funds

or provides services under this section. Of these members, five (5) members shall be persons with developmental disabilities, and five (5) members shall be parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities or immediate relatives or guardians of adults with mentally impairing developmental disabilities who cannot advocate for themselves. Six (6) members shall be a combination of individuals in these two (2) groups, and at least one (1) of these members shall be an immediate relative or guardian of an institutionalized or previously institutionalized person with a developmental disability or an individual with a developmental disability who resides in an institution or who previously resided in an institution.

- (c) Members not representing principal state agencies shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years. Members shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed or until they are removed for cause.
 - (d) The council shall elect its own chair, adopt bylaws, and operate in accordance with its bylaws. Members of the council who are not state employees shall be reimbursed for necessary and actual expenses. The cabinet shall provide personnel adequate to insure that the council has the capacity to fulfill its responsibilities. The council shall be headed by an executive director. If the executive director position becomes vacant, the council shall be responsible for the recruitment and hiring of a new executive director.
- (4) The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities shall:
- (a) Develop, in consultation with the cabinet, and implement the state plan as required by Part B of the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1984, as amended, with a goal of development of a coordinated consumer and family centered focus and direction, including the specification of priority services required by that plan;

- (b) Monitor, review, and evaluate, not less often than annually, the implementation and effectiveness of the state plan in meeting the plan's objectives;
 - (c) To the maximum extent feasible, review and comment on all state plans that relate to persons with developmental disabilities;
 - (d) Submit to the secretary of the cabinet, the commissioner of the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, and the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services any periodic reports on its activities as required by the United States Department of Health and Human Services and keep records and afford access as the cabinet finds necessary to verify the reports;
 - (e) Serve as an advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities and conduct programs, projects, and activities that promote systematic change and capacity building;
 - (f) Examine, not less than once every five (5) years, the provision of and need for federal and state priority areas to address, on a statewide and comprehensive basis, urgent needs for services, supports, and other assistance for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families; and
 - (g) Prepare, approve, and implement a budget that includes amounts paid to the state under the Developmental Disabilities Act of 1984, as amended, to fund all programs, projects, and activities under that Act.
- (5) The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities shall appoint a subcommittee, which shall include members of the Kentucky Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders, to monitor the implementation of the state plan as developed by the commission beginning October 1, 2006. The subcommittee shall prepare, and the council shall submit, the report as required under KRS 194A.622 (10).

➔Section 5. KRS 194A.622 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) There is hereby created the Kentucky Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders, which shall consist of the following twenty-two (22) members who shall be initially appointed by July 1, 2005:
 - (a) The secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or his or her designee;
 - (b) The commissioner of the Department for Medicaid Services or his or her designee;
 - (c) The director of the Kentucky Early Intervention System, Department for Public Health, or his or her designee;
 - (d) The commissioner of the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities or his or her designee;
 - (e) The commissioner of the Department for Aging and Independent Living or his or her designee;
 - (f) The chair of the Council on Postsecondary Education or his or her designee;
 - (g) The ***commissioner of the Department of education***~~{director of the Division of Exceptional Children Services}~~ or his or her designee;
 - (h) The commissioner of the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation or his or her designee;
 - (i) The commissioner of the Department of Insurance or his or her designee;
 - (j) Two (2) nonvoting ex officio members from the House of Representatives, one (1) representing the majority party and one (1) representing the minority party, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House;
 - (k) Two (2) nonvoting ex officio members from the Senate, one (1) representing the majority party and one (1) representing the minority party, who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the President of the Senate;

- (l) Four (4) professional ASD treatment providers, including at least one (1) mental health provider, one (1) physical health provider, and one (1) complex needs consultant from a special education cooperative, to be appointed by the Governor; and
 - (m) Five (5) parents, including three (3) who, at the time of their appointment to the commission, have a child with an ASD who is under eighteen (18) years of age and two (2) who, at the time of their appointment to the commission, have a child with an ASD who is eighteen (18) years of age or older, to be appointed by the Governor.
- (2) In making appointments to the commission, the Governor shall ensure broad representation of Kentucky's citizens who are concerned with the health and quality of life of individuals with an ASD, may appoint individuals who are also members of the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities, and shall consider candidates recommended by the Autism Spectrum Disorders Advisory Consortium of Kentucky.
- (3) Members shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for their actual expenses incurred in the performance of commission duties in accordance with KRS 45.101 and administrative regulations promulgated thereunder. Members of the commission shall serve until the commission ceases to exist, a successor has been appointed, or until removed for good cause.
- (4) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall provide staff and administrative support for the commission.
- (5) The chair of the commission shall be designated by the Governor and may be a member in addition to those listed in subsection (1) of this section. The chair of the commission shall establish procedures for the commission's internal procedures.
- (6) The commission shall meet at least three (3) times per year. The commission shall also meet as often as necessary to accomplish its purpose upon the call of the chair,

the request of four (4) or more members, or the request of the Governor.

- (7) The commission shall develop a comprehensive state plan for creating an integrated system of training, treatments, and services for individuals of all ages with an ASD. The commission shall utilize relevant data and research and consult with appropriate professionals, agencies, institutions, and organizations representing the private and public sectors, including the Kentucky Autism Training Center, to develop the state plan. The state plan shall include the following:
- (a) An assessment of the diverse needs for services and supports for individuals with an ASD;
 - (b) Identification of state, federal, private, and any other appropriate funding sources;
 - (c) Development of a comprehensive training plan, which shall include the Kentucky Autism Training Center, to meet training needs;
 - (d) An analysis of standards for provider training and qualifications, best practice standards for services, and the need for additional service providers;
 - (e) An evaluation of health benefit plans and insurance coverage for the treatment of ASD;
 - (f) A plan for the identification of individuals of all ages with an ASD and for the creation of a statewide ASD registry;
 - (g) An analysis of program and service eligibility criteria;
 - (h) An assessment of the need for coordinated, enhanced, and targeted special education and treatment programs for children with an ASD; and
 - (i) A timeline for implementing and monitoring the recommendations of the plan statewide. The timeline shall include input from the following:
 - 1. The Cabinet for Health and Family Services;
 - 2. The Department for Medicaid Services;
 - 3. The Department for Public Health;

4. The Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities;
 5. The Kentucky Early Intervention System;
 6. The Division of Exceptional Children Services;
 7. The Department of Vocational Rehabilitation;
 8. The Department of Insurance;
 9. The Department of Education;
 10. The Council on Postsecondary Education; and
 11. Other appropriate agencies, professionals, institutions, and organizations representing the public and private sectors, including the Kentucky Autism Training Center.
- (8) Based upon the comprehensive state plan for an integrated system of training, treatment, and services for individuals of all ages with an ASD, the commission shall make recommendations regarding legislation, administrative regulations, and policies to the Governor and the General Assembly on the following:
- (a) Needs for services and supports for individuals who have an ASD;
 - (b) Funding needs and sources, including state, federal, private, and any other appropriate funding sources;
 - (c) Training needs and a plan to implement a comprehensive training system, which shall include the Kentucky Autism Training Center;
 - (d) Standards for provider training and qualifications, best practice standards for services, and the need for additional providers;
 - (e) Goals for developing health benefit plans that provide insurance coverage for the treatment of ASD;
 - (f) A plan for the identification of individuals of all ages with an ASD and for the creation of a statewide ASD registry;
 - (g) Consistent program and service eligibility criteria;

- (h) The need for coordinated, enhanced, and targeted special education and treatment programs for individuals with an ASD; and
 - (i) Strategies and timelines for establishing an accountable, cost-efficient, and cooperative system of services that integrates and builds upon existing public and private agencies, programs, and resources.
- (9) The commission shall submit the comprehensive state plan and recommendations to the Governor, the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities, and the Legislative Research Commission by October 1, 2006, at which time the commission shall cease to exist unless reauthorized by the General Assembly.
- (10) The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities shall appoint a subcommittee, which shall include members of the commission, to monitor the implementation of the state plan as developed by the commission beginning October 1, 2006. The subcommittee shall prepare, and the council shall submit, a report to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission that assesses progress in the implementation of the state plan and that makes recommendations on the need for modifications to the state plan as developed by the Kentucky Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders. The subcommittee shall prepare, and the council shall submit, the report as it deems appropriate, but no less than biennially, until October 1, 2015.

➔Section 6. The following KRS section is repealed:

156.017 Regional service centers.

➔Section 7. In order to reflect the reorganization effectuated by this Act, the reviser of statutes shall replace references in the Kentucky Revised Statutes to the agencies, subagencies, and officers affected by this Act with references to the appropriate successor agencies, subagencies, and officers established by this Act. The reviser shall base these actions on the functions assigned to the new entities by this Act and may consult with officers of the effected agencies, or their designees, to receive suggestions.

→Section 8. Notwithstanding KRS 12.028, the General Assembly confirms Executive Orders 2014-460, dated June 16, 2014, and 2014-559, dated June 30, 2014,, to the extent not otherwise confirmed or superseded by this Act, relating to the reorganization of the Kentucky Department of Education, which renames the Office of Internal Administration and Support the Office of Administration and Support; renames the Office of Education Technology the Office of Knowledge, Information, and Data Services; renames the Office of Legal, Legislative, and Communication Services the Office of Guiding Support Services; renames the Office of Special Instructional Services the Office of Next Generation Schools and Districts; renames the Office of Teaching and Learning the Office of Next Generation Learners; abolishes the Bureau of Learning Results Services, the Bureau of Operations and Support Services, the Office of Leadership and School Improvement, and the Office of District Support Services; makes organizational changes in the renamed offices and in the Office of Assessment and Accountability; and establishes organizational structure in the Office of Career and Technical Education.