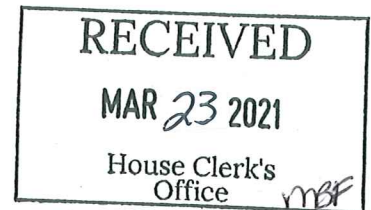




COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR



Capitol Building, Suite 100
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601
(502) 564-2611
Fax: (502) 564-2517

VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 312 OF THE
2021 REGULAR SESSION

I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

House Bill 312 of the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

Transparency and accountability are critical for a well-functioning democracy. The Kentucky Open Records Act has provided access to ensure the public's right to know how its government operates. House Bill 312 does not live up to those values.

I am vetoing House Bill 312 because it defeats the entire purpose of the Kentucky Open Records Act. The bill would shield the Legislative Branch from providing public records, and would make it the judge of what records it should produce with no ability for a citizen to appeal that decision to a judge. It would also prevent any nonresident of Kentucky from being able to have access to public records.

This the 23rd day of March, 2021.

Andy Beshear
Governor