



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING SENATE BILL 48 OF THE
2021 REGULAR SESSION

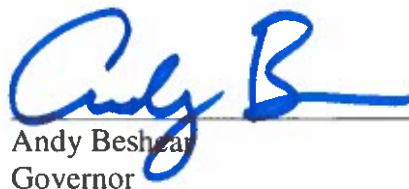
I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

Senate Bill 48 of the 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

I am vetoing Senate Bill 48 because it is overly broad, impractical, and the public safety concerns that led to this bill's passage are more properly addressed through Senate Bill 267. While the public officers and their household members included in Senate Bill 48 deserve protection, Senate Bill 267 provides appropriate protections without impairing the operation of public agencies and infringing on the public's right to information about their government.

I have signed Senate Bill 267 into law, which makes the intentional dissemination of the same types of personally identifying information in Senate Bill 48 a crime if distributed with the intent to intimidate, abuse, threaten, harass, or frighten a person. KRS 61.878(1)(a), regarding exemptions to the Open Records Act, already allows public agencies to redact personal information where a release of that information "would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." The additional exemption created in Senate Bill 48 for "public officers" is drafted so broadly as to be unworkable in practice. Indeed, as a former Attorney General I could request my office number be redacted in all public records.

This the 8th day of April, 2021.


Andy Beshear
Governor