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House Clerk's WK

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## VETO MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY REGARDING HOUSE BILL 740 OF THE 2022 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 740 of the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

I am vetoing House Bill 740 because it reduces transparency in our elections. House Bill 740 requires candidates for legislative office to file only annual campaign finance reports in years they are not running for reelection. Candidate financial reports are what provide transparency to the people of Kentucky who elect these officials. Without quarterly reports, candidates will be able to draft bills and serve on interim legislative committees, while receiving donations in secret. House Bill 740 also removes the requirements that candidates report the name and employer of the spouse of the donor for donations over \$100, further eroding transparency.

Studies have shown that legislators prioritize the interests of their donors, and more money is flowing into political races than ever before. As a result, it is more important than ever to maintain transparency and accountability in our elections.

For these reason, I am vetoing House Bill 740.

This, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022.

Andy Beshear Governor

