

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 622 OF THE 2025 REGULAR SESSION

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

Page 6, line 16, after "KRS 45A.070", delete the strikethrough of "[".

Page 6, line 17, delete the strikethrough of "and]".

Page 6, line 18, after "KRS 45A.070", delete ";and".

Page 6, lines 19 through 20, in their entirety.

Page 6, line 21, delete "KRS 45.453 and Section 3 of this Act".

Page 6, lines 24 through 27, in their entirety.

Page 7, lines 1 through 27, in their entirety.

Page 8, lines 1 through 27 in their entirety.

Page 9, lines 1 through 27, in their entirety.

Page 10, lines 1 through 13, in their entirety.

I am vetoing these parts because they are unnecessary. Instead of in statute, these types of procedures should be outlined in policies or regulations issued by the Finance and Administration Cabinet so that it may have the necessary flexibility to deal with changing circumstances. One example is the impact of the federal government unilaterally cancelling or freezing funding sources that vendors may otherwise be relying on. Many of the examples that were cited for the need for this legislation dealt with federal funding that these parts could obligate the Commonwealth for even if the funding is not received.

Page 12, lines 6 through 18, in their entirety.

All Kentucky children deserve to be safe in their schools, but the Kentucky Constitution requires public funds be used only for public schools. In multiple rulings, the Supreme Court of Kentucky has upheld the constitutional mandate that only public schools receive public funds, most recently by striking down two bills passed in 2021 and 2022. Last year, voters in every one of Kentucky's 120 counties rejected a proposed constitutional amendment that would have allowed their taxpayer dollars to be spent on nonpublic schools. Because it is unconstitutional, I am vetoing this part.

This, the 3 day of April, 2025.

Andy Beshear Governor

