



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 HOUSE BILL 694 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 Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

House Bill 694 of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

House Bill 694 breaks a promise made to teachers in 2010 and does so without even giving them an opportunity for input. Fifteen years ago, school districts, teachers and retirees came together and agreed to increase both the employer and employee contributions to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System to create a fund that ensures all teachers have healthcare in retirement. As a result, the health insurance trust fund is nearly 100% funded. House Bill 694 would redirect the increased retirement contributions agreed to under the 2010 law to cover the unfunded liability of the pension system once the health insurance trust fund reaches 100% funding. This would require teachers to pay a higher rate much longer than the law calls for. The General Assembly passed House Bill 694 without the collaborative effort that made the 2010 legislation a success. Breaking this promise is unfair to the teachers we rely on to guide our children and the future of the Commonwealth.

For these reasons, I am vetoing House Bill 694.

This, the 25th day of March, 2025.



Andy Beshear
Governor