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COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 652 OF THE 2026 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 652 of the 2026 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

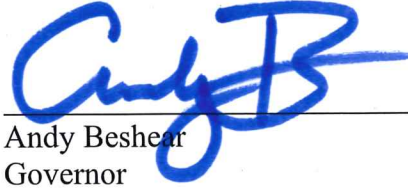
*Although the School Mapping Data Program provides a valuable service that would help keep our schools and children safe, House Bill 652 provides no money to the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security (KOHS) to run this program. The bill would force KOHS to spend **all** its General Fund dollars on the program, and in the process de-fund the statewide 911 system. That system provides faster, smarter and more coordinated responses to emergencies, from severe weather, tornadoes and floods like the Commonwealth has seen far too often these past five years, to traffic accidents and public safety threats.*

Prior to the bill's passage, the Executive Director of KOHS informed the bill's sponsor in writing of the funding that would be necessary to run the program, stating the first four years would require two geographic information system contractors, two new employees, annual geographic information system management and storage costs, and costs for onsite mapping by vendors – totaling \$6,440,000 per year. The executive director also advised that the costs after initial mapping was completed would be \$2,830,000 per year, including the costs for yearly maintenance after initial mapping, annual geographic information system management and storage, a geographic information system contractor, and two new employees.

The original House Bill 652 contained an appropriation of \$5 million in each of the next two fiscal years but passed with \$0 after the House of Representatives erased that funding despite KOHS' executive director informing the General Assembly about the cost. On top of providing no funding to carry out House Bill 652, the General Assembly's total General Fund appropriation for the operations of the entire KOHS was just \$11,258,800 for the next two fiscal years. That means KOHS would have to spend its entire budget to administer the School Mapping Data Program.

For these reasons, I am vetoing House Bill 652.

This, the 13th day of April, 2026.



Andy Beshear
Governor