

1 AN ACT relating to area development districts.

2 WHEREAS, The Kentucky General Assembly commends the 15 Area Development
3 Districts for having served as the premier regional planning agencies for the
4 Commonwealth for more than five decades; and

5 WHEREAS, The Kentucky General Assembly seeks to strengthen the regional
6 planning concept through the effective utilization, management, distribution, and
7 administration of state and federal planning funds to maximize the benefits to the citizens
8 of the Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, The Kentucky Department for Local Government has been steadfast in
10 its oversight of the Area Development Districts as the cognizant state agency since the
11 department's inception;

12 NOW, THEREFORE,

13 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

14 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly, given the shifting paradigms that have taken
15 place since the inception of the 15 Area Development Districts, does hereby establish the
16 Area Development District Task Force of the Legislative Research Commission charged
17 with the responsibility of bringing together all stakeholders in the Area Development
18 District administrative process, including but not limited to cities, counties, special taxing
19 districts, and various state and federal agencies, to evaluate the current effectiveness of
20 the Commonwealth's Area Development Districts' scope or programming, their
21 relationship with the Department for Local Government, and the most effective long-term
22 utilization of the Area Development Districts' experience, capacity, and resources that
23 will enable them to continue to provide regional planning services consistent with their
24 statutory mandates and intent.

25 ➔Section 2. The task force shall be composed of the following 10 members:

- 26 (1) Two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate;
27 (2) One member of the Senate appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the Senate;

1 (3) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
2 House;

3 (4) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Floor
4 Leader of the House; and

5 (5) Four citizen members; two of which shall be appointed by the President of the
6 Senate and two of which shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
7 Representatives. Each citizen member shall possess a working knowledge of Area
8 Development Districts. One of the four citizen appointees shall be a former
9 Commissioner of the Department for Local Government.

10 (6) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
11 each designate a co-chair from among their respective appointments of legislative
12 members on the task force.

13 The final membership of the task force is subject to the consideration and approval of the
14 Legislative Research Commission.

15 ➔Section 3. The task force shall be staffed by the staff of the Legislative Research
16 Commission. The task force shall meet during the interim of the 2019 General Assembly.
17 The task force shall present its findings to the Legislative Research Commission no later
18 than November 27, 2019, for referral to the appropriate committee or committees.

19 ➔Section 4. The provisions of this Act to the contrary notwithstanding, the
20 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the
21 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to
22 designate a completion date for the task force.

23 ➔Section 5. Sections 1 to 3 of this Act shall have the same legal status as a House
24 Concurrent Resolution.