

1 AN ACT relating to homeless youth prevention and protection and making an  
2 appropriation therefor.

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

4 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
5 READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 *The General Assembly finds that:*

- 7 *(1) Every night thousands of homeless youth in the Commonwealth go to sleep*  
8 *without the safety, stability, and support of a family or a home. This population is*  
9 *exposed to an increased level of violence, human trafficking, and exploitation*  
10 *resulting in a higher incidence of substance abuse, illness, and death. The*  
11 *prevention and reduction of youth and young adult homelessness and protection*  
12 *of homeless youth is of key concern to the Commonwealth. Nothing in Sections 1*  
13 *to 23 of this Act shall be construed to diminish the work accomplished by the*  
14 *implementation of KRS 194A.735, but rather, to enhance the Commonwealth's*  
15 *efforts in working with unaccompanied homeless youth and runaways, to*  
16 *encourage family reconciliation or permanent housing, and support through*  
17 *dependency when family reconciliation is not a viable alternative;*
- 18 *(2) Successfully addressing youth and young adult homelessness ensures that*  
19 *homeless youth and young adults in the Commonwealth have the support they*  
20 *need to thrive and to avoid involvement in the criminal justice system, human*  
21 *trafficking, long-term and avoidable use of public benefits, and extended adult*  
22 *homelessness;*
- 23 *(3) Providing appropriate, relevant, and readily accessible services is critical for*  
24 *addressing one-time, episodic, or longer-term homelessness among youth and*  
25 *young adults, and keeping homeless youth and young adults safe, housed, and*  
26 *connected to family;*
- 27 *(4) The coordination of statewide programs to combat youth and young adult*

1 homelessness should include programs addressing both youth and young adults.  
2 However, the General Assembly acknowledges that current laws and best  
3 practices mandate that youth programs and young adult programs be segregated  
4 in their implementation. The legislature further finds that the differing needs of  
5 these populations should be considered when assessing which programs are  
6 relevant and appropriate;

7 (5) To successfully reduce and prevent youth and young adult homelessness, it is the  
8 goal of the General Assembly to have the following key components available and  
9 accessible:

10 (a) Safe and healthy places for homeless youth to sleep each night until  
11 permanency can be reached. Every homeless young adult in the  
12 Commonwealth deserves access to housing that provides a safe, healthy,  
13 and supported launching pad to adulthood. Every family in crisis should  
14 have appropriate support as they work to keep their children housed and  
15 safe. It is the goal of the General Assembly to ensure that every homeless  
16 youth discharged from a public system of care in the Commonwealth will  
17 not be discharged into homelessness;

18 (b) Access to services that support reunification with immediate family. When  
19 reunification is not possible for homeless youth, youth should be placed in  
20 the custody of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services;

21 (c) Opportunities to establish positive, healthy relationships with adults,  
22 including family members, employers, landlords, teachers, and community  
23 members, with whom they can maintain connections and from whom they  
24 can receive ongoing, long-term support to help them develop the skills and  
25 experiences necessary to achieve a successful transition to adulthood;

26 (d) Opportunity and support they need to complete their high school education  
27 and pursue additional education and training. It is the goal of the

1           legislature that every homeless young adult in the Commonwealth has the  
 2           opportunity to engage in employment training and to access employment.  
 3           With both education and employment support opportunities, young adults  
 4           will have the skills they need to become self-sufficient, self-reliant, and  
 5           independent; and

6           (e) Access to both behavioral health care and physical health care. Every state-  
 7           funded program for homeless youth and young adults shall endeavor to  
 8           identify, encourage, and nurture each youth's and young adult's strengths  
 9           and abilities and demonstrate a commitment to youth and young adult-  
 10          centered programming.

11          ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
 12          READ AS FOLLOWS:

13          Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply to Sections 1 to  
 14          23 of this Act:

15          (1) "Administrator" means the individual who has the daily administrative  
 16          responsibility of a crisis residential center;

17          (2) "Child in need of services petition" means a petition filed in juvenile court by a  
 18          parent, child, or the department seeking adjudication of placement of the child;

19          (3) "Child," "juvenile," "youth," and "minor" mean any unemancipated individual  
 20          who is twenty-six (26) years of age or younger;

21          (4) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the Department for Community  
 22          Based Services;

23          (5) "Crisis residential center" means a secure or semi-secure facility;

24          (6) "Department" means the Department for Community Based Services;

25          (7) "Fund" means the ending youth homelessness grant fund;

26          (8) "Homeless" means without a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence as  
 27          set forth in the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. secs.

1       11301 et seq.;

2       (9) "Homeless housing plan" means the ten (10) year plan developed by the county  
3       or other local entities to address housing for homeless persons;

4       (10) "Homeless housing program" means the program authorized under Sections 1 to  
5       23 of this Act as administered by the department at the state level and by the local  
6       government or its designated subcontractor at the local level;

7       (11) "Homeless housing strategic plan" means the ten (10) year plan developed by the  
8       department, in consultation with the Interagency Council on Homelessness;

9       (12) "Homeless person" means an individual living outside or in a building not meant  
10       for human habitation or which the person has no legal right to occupy, in an  
11       emergency shelter, or on a temporary housing program which may include a  
12       transitional and supportive housing program if habitation time limits exist,  
13       including but not limited to substance abusers, people with mental illness, and  
14       sex offenders who are homeless;

15       (13) "Housing continuum" means the progression of individuals along a housing-  
16       focused continuum with homelessness at one end and home ownership at the  
17       other;

18       (14) "Housing placement payments" means one (1) time payments, such as first and  
19       last month's rent and move-in costs, funded by document recording surcharges  
20       collected that are made to secure a unit on behalf of a tenant;

21       (15) "Housing vouchers" means payments, including private rental housing  
22       payments, funded by document recording surcharges that are made by a local  
23       government or contractor to secure either a rental unit on behalf of an individual  
24       tenant or a block of units on behalf of multiple tenants;

25       (16) "Interested landlord list" means a list of landlords who have indicated to a local  
26       government or contractor interest in renting to individuals or households  
27       receiving a housing voucher funded by document recording surcharges;

- 1 (17) "Kentucky youth and young adult homeless census" means an annual statewide  
2 census conducted as a collaborative effort by towns, cities, counties, community-  
3 based organizations, and state agencies, with the technical support and  
4 coordination of the department, to count and collect data on all youth and young  
5 adult homeless individuals in Kentucky;
- 6 (18) "Kentucky homeless client management information system" means a database  
7 of information about homeless individuals in the state used to coordinate  
8 resources to assist homeless clients to obtain and retain housing and reach  
9 greater levels of self-sufficiency or economic independence when appropriate,  
10 depending upon their individual situations;
- 11 (19) "Local government" means a county government in the Commonwealth or a city  
12 government, if the legislative authority of the city affirmatively elects to accept the  
13 responsibility for housing youth and young adult homeless persons within its  
14 borders;
- 15 (20) "Performance measures" means the process of comparing specific measures of  
16 success against ultimate and interim goals;
- 17 (21) "Private rental housing" means housing owned by a private landlord and does  
18 not include housing owned by a nonprofit housing entity or government entity;
- 19 (22) "Program" means the ending youth homelessness grant program;
- 20 (23) "Runaway" means an unmarried child under the age of eighteen (18) years who  
21 is absent from the home of a parent or guardian or other lawful placement  
22 without the consent of the parent, guardian, or lawful custodian;
- 23 (24) "Secure facility" means a crisis residential center, or portion thereof, that has  
24 locking doors, locking windows, or a secured perimeter, designed and operated to  
25 prevent a child from leaving without permission of the facility staff;
- 26 (25) "Semi-secure facility" means any facility, including but not limited to crisis  
27 residential centers or specialized foster family homes, operated in a manner to

1 reasonably assure that youth placed there will not run away;

2 (26) "Street youth" means a person twenty-six (26) years of age or younger who lives  
3 outdoors or in another unsafe location not intended for occupancy by the person  
4 and who is not residing with his or her parent or at his or her legally authorized  
5 residence;

6 (27) "Supportive services" means those interventions, services, and resources  
7 necessary to assist program participants in accessing and maintaining housing  
8 and economic self-sufficiency and includes but is not limited to:

9 (a) Services for families to prevent separation and support reunification where  
10 safe and appropriate;

11 (b) Housing search, counseling, rental assistance, financial assistance with  
12 eviction prevention, utilities, security deposit, and relocation, and other  
13 housing support services;

14 (c) Employment assistance, job training, and job placement;

15 (d) Entrepreneurial assistance for starting small businesses;

16 (e) Assistance and advocacy to ensure access to federal, state, and local  
17 benefits;

18 (f) Assistance and advocacy to ensure access to education under the  
19 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. secs. 11301 et seq.,  
20 financial support for higher education under the applicable provisions of  
21 the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, 20 U.S.C. sec. 10877vv(d)(1)(H)  
22 and the Kentucky waiver program, KRS 164.2847, for adopted and foster  
23 children;

24 (g) Services to prevent and treat violence and crime victimization;

25 (h) Parental educational services;

26 (i) Case management;

27 (j) Child care operations and vouchers;

1 (k) Legal services;

2 (l) Outpatient health, behavioral health, and substance abuse treatment  
3 services;

4 (m) Transportation;

5 (n) Outreach services;

6 (o) Homelessness prevention services;

7 (p) Aftercare services; and

8 (q) Other services as deemed necessary by the secretary;

9 (28) "Unaccompanied homeless youth" means an individual who is twenty-six (26)  
10 years of age or younger who is not in the physical custody of a parent or  
11 guardian, lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, and who:

12 (a) Lives in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to  
13 provide temporary living arrangements;

14 (b) Lives in a motel, hotel, or campground due to lack of alternative adequate  
15 accommodations;

16 (c) Shares the housing of other individuals due to loss of housing, economic  
17 hardship, or similar reason;

18 (d) Lives in a transitional housing program or other time-limited housing; or

19 (e) Has a primary nighttime residence which is a public or private place not  
20 designed or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for  
21 individuals, such as a car, a park, an abandoned building, a bus stop bench,  
22 on the street, or other places not intended for human habitation;

23 (29) "Young adult" means a person between eighteen (18) and twenty-six (26) years  
24 of age; and

25 (30) "Youth at risk of homelessness" means a person twenty-six (26) years of age or  
26 younger whose status or circumstances indicate a significant danger of  
27 experiencing homelessness in the near future such as:

- 1        (a) Youth exiting out-of-home placements;  
2        (b) Youth who previously were homeless;  
3        (c) Youth whose parents or primary caregivers are or were previously  
4            homeless;  
5        (d) Youth who are exposed to abuse and neglect in their homes;  
6        (e) Youth who experience conflict with parents due to chemical or alcohol  
7            dependency, mental health disabilities, or other disabilities; and  
8        (f) Runaways.

9        ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
10 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 11        (1) An Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection is hereby created within  
12            the Department for Community Based Services.  
13        (2) The office shall be administered by a director appointed by the commissioner or  
14            his or her designee.  
15        (3) The office shall lead efforts under Sections 1 to 23 of this Act to coordinate a  
16            spectrum of ongoing and future funding, policy, and practice efforts related to  
17            homeless youth and improving the safety, health, and welfare of homeless youth  
18            in the Commonwealth.  
19        (4) The measurable goals of the office are to:  
20            (a) Decrease the number of homeless youth and young adults in the  
21                    Commonwealth by identifying programs that address the initial causes of  
22                    homelessness; and  
23            (b) Increase permanency rates among homeless youth by decreasing the length  
24                    and occurrences of youth homelessness caused by a youth's separation from  
25                    family or a legal guardian.  
26        (5) The office shall:  
27            (a) Gather data and outcome measures;



- 1       **(b) Initiate data-sharing agreements;**  
 2       **(c) Develop specific recommendations and timelines to address funding, policy,**  
 3       **and practice gaps within the state system for addressing the five (5) priority**  
 4       **service areas identified in Section 1 of this Act;**  
 5       **(d) Make reports;**  
 6       **(e) Increase system integration and coordinate efforts to prevent state systems**  
 7       **from discharging youth and young adults into homelessness;**  
 8       **(f) Develop measures to include, by county and statewide, the number of**  
 9       **homeless youth, dependency status, family reunification status, housing**  
 10       **status, program participation, and runaway status; and**  
 11       **(g) Develop a comprehensive plan to encourage identification of youth**  
 12       **experiencing homelessness, promote family stability, and eliminate youth**  
 13       **and young adult homelessness.**  
 14       **(6) The Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection shall be operational no**  
 15       **later than January 1, 2020.**

16       ➔SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
 17 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 18       **(1) There is hereby established a Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection**  
 19       **Advisory Council to consist of twelve (12) members appointed as follows:**  
 20       **(a) Advocates;**  
 21       **(b) Two (2) legislators appointed under subsection (4) of this section;**  
 22       **(c) At least two (2) parent advocates;**  
 23       **(d) At least one (1) representative from law enforcement;**  
 24       **(e) Service providers; and**  
 25       **(f) Other stakeholders knowledgeable in the provision of services to homeless**  
 26       **youth and young adults, including the prevention of youth and young adult**  
 27       **homelessness, the dependency system, and family reunification.**

1 (2) The advisory council shall meet at least four (4) times annually and shall provide  
 2 guidance and recommendations to the Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and  
 3 Protection regarding funding, policy, and practice gaps within and among state  
 4 programs.

5 (3) The advisory council shall be staffed by the department.

6 (4) The members of the advisory council shall be appointed by the Governor, except  
 7 that under subsection (1)(b) of this section, the Speaker of the House of  
 8 Representatives shall appoint one (1) member and the President of the Senate  
 9 shall appoint one (1) member.

10 (5) The advisory council shall have its initial meeting no later than July 1, 2019.

11 ➔SECTION 5. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
 12 READ AS FOLLOWS:

13 (1) The Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection shall identify data and  
 14 outcome measures from which to evaluate future public investment in homeless  
 15 youth services.

16 (2) By December 1, 2020, the office shall submit a report to the Governor and the  
 17 General Assembly to inform recommendations for funding, policy, and best  
 18 practices in the five (5) priority service areas identified in Section 1 of this Act  
 19 and present recommendations to address funding, policy, and practice gaps in the  
 20 state system.

21 (3) Recommendations shall include but are not limited to:

22 (a) Strategies to enhance coordination between providers of youth  
 23 homelessness programs and the child welfare system; and

24 (b) Strategies for communities to identify homeless youth and ensure their  
 25 protection and referral to appropriate services, including family  
 26 reconciliation and transition to dependent status for minors.

27 ➔SECTION 6. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO

1 READ AS FOLLOWS:

2 (1) (a) The Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection shall report to the  
3 commissioner of the Department for Community Based Services or the  
4 commissioner's designee.

5 (b) 1. The office may distribute grants to providers who serve homeless  
6 youth and young adults throughout the Commonwealth.

7 2. The grants shall fund services in the priority service areas identified in  
8 Section 1 of this Act.

9 3. The grants shall be expended on a statewide basis and may be used to  
10 support direct services, housing, education, and training, as well as  
11 technical assistance, evaluation, and capacity building.

12 (2) The office shall develop and provide management and oversight of the following  
13 services programs:

14 (a) Youth shelters;

15 (b) Crisis residential centers;

16 (c) Street youth services and outreach;

17 (d) Independent youth housing programs;

18 (e) Drop-in centers;

19 (f) Residential treatment;

20 (g) Juvenile rehabilitation;

21 (h) Health care access for unaccompanied youth and young adults;

22 (i) Youth in need of supervision;

23 (j) Status offenses;

24 (k) Emancipation;

25 (l) Rights of youth to enter into contracts;

26 (m) Consent and confidentiality statutes;

27 (n) Discharge from the juvenile justice system;

1 (o) Interstate Compact for Juveniles;

2 (p) Federal benefits;

3 (q) Rights of unaccompanied youth and young adults to public education; and

4 (r) Harboring unaccompanied youth.

5 ➔SECTION 7. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
6 READ AS FOLLOWS:

7 (1) The Office of Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection shall establish a  
8 statewide training program for homeless youth for criminal justice personnel.  
9 The training shall include identifying homeless youth, existing laws governing  
10 the intersection of law enforcement and homeless youth, and best practices for  
11 approaching and engaging homeless youth in appropriate services, including  
12 trauma informed care, implicit bias, youth choice, positive youth development  
13 and other nationally recognized best practices.

14 (2) The training shall be provided where possible by an entity that has experience in  
15 developing coalitions, training, programs, and policy on homeless youth in the  
16 Commonwealth.

17 ➔SECTION 8. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
18 READ AS FOLLOWS:

19 (1) (a) The administrator of a crisis residential center may convene a  
20 multidisciplinary team, which is to be locally based and administered, at the  
21 request of a child placed at a center or the child's parent.

22 (b) If the administrator has reasonable cause to believe that a child is a child in  
23 need of services and the parent is unavailable or unwilling to continue  
24 efforts to maintain the family structure, the administrator shall immediately  
25 convene a multidisciplinary team.

26 (c) A parent may disband a team twenty-four (24) hours, excluding weekends  
27 and holidays, after receiving notice of formation of the team under

1           paragraph (b) of this subsection unless a petition has been filed. If a  
2           petition has been filed, the parent may not disband the team until a hearing  
3           is held. The court may allow the team to continue if an out-of-home  
4           placement is ordered. Upon the filing of an at-risk youth or dependency  
5           petition the team shall cease to exist, unless the parent requests  
6           continuation of the team or unless the out-of-home placement was ordered.

7           (2) The administrator shall request participation of appropriate state agencies to  
8           assist in the coordination and delivery of services through the multidisciplinary  
9           teams. Those agencies that agree to participate shall provide the secretary all  
10           information necessary to facilitate forming a multidisciplinary team and the  
11           administrator shall provide this information to the administrator of each crisis  
12           residential center. The administrator shall also seek participation from  
13           representatives of mental health and drug and alcohol treatment providers as  
14           appropriate.

15           (3) A parent shall be advised of the request to form a multidisciplinary team and may  
16           select additional members of the multidisciplinary team. The parent or child may  
17           request any person or persons to participate, including but not limited to  
18           educators, law enforcement personnel, court personnel, family therapists,  
19           licensed health care practitioners, social services providers, youth residential  
20           placement providers, other family members, church representatives, and  
21           members of their own community . The administrator shall assist in obtaining the  
22           prompt participation of persons requested by the parent or child.

23           (4) When an administrator of a crisis residential center requests the formation of a  
24           team, the state agencies shall respond as soon as possible.

25           ➔SECTION 9. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED TO  
26 READ AS FOLLOWS:

27           (1) The purpose of the multidisciplinary team is to assist in a coordinated referral of

- 1        the family to available social and health-related services.
- 2        (2) The team shall have the authority to evaluate the juvenile and family members, if  
3        appropriate and agreed to by the parent, and shall:
- 4        (a) With parental input, develop a plan of appropriate available services and  
5        assist the family in obtaining those services;
- 6        (b) Make a referral to the designated chemical dependency specialist or the  
7        county designated mental health professional, if appropriate;
- 8        (c) Recommend no further intervention because the juvenile and his or her  
9        family have resolved the problem causing the family conflict; or
- 10       (d) With the parent's consent, work with them to achieve reconciliation of the  
11       juvenile and family.
- 12       (3) At the first meeting of the multidisciplinary team, a member shall be chosen to  
13       coordinate the team's efforts. The parent member of the multidisciplinary team  
14       shall agree with the choice of coordinator. The team shall meet or communicate  
15       as often as necessary to assist the family.
- 16       (4) The coordinator of the multidisciplinary team may assist in filing a child in need  
17       of services petition when requested by the parent or child or an at-risk youth  
18       petition when requested by the parent. The multidisciplinary team shall have no  
19       standing as a party in any action under Section 1 to 23 of this Act.
- 20       (5) If the administrator is unable to contact the child's parent, the multidisciplinary  
21       team may be used for assistance. If the parent has not been contacted within five  
22       (5) days, the administrator shall contact the department and request that the case  
23       be reviewed for a dependency filing.

24       ➔SECTION 10. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
25 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 26       (1) A law enforcement officer shall take a child into custody:  
27       (a) If a law enforcement agency has been notified by the parent of the child

- 1           that the child is absent from parental custody without consent;
- 2           (b) If a law enforcement officer reasonably believes, considering the child's  
3           age, the location, and the time of day, that a child is in circumstances which  
4           constitute a danger to the child's safety or that a child is violating a local  
5           curfew ordinance;
- 6           (c) If an agency legally charged with the supervision of a child has notified a  
7           law enforcement agency that the child has run away from placement; or
- 8           (d) If a law enforcement agency has been notified by the juvenile court that the  
9           court finds probable cause exists to believe that the child has violated a  
10           court placement order or that the court has issued an order for law  
11           enforcement to pick up the child.
- 12       (2) Law enforcement custody shall not extend beyond the amount of time reasonably  
13       necessary to transport the child to a destination authorized by law and to place  
14       the child at the destination. Law enforcement custody continues until the law  
15       enforcement officer transfers custody to a person, agency, or other authorized  
16       entity under this section, or releases the child because no placement is available.  
17       Transfer of custody is not complete unless the person, agency, or entity to whom  
18       the child is released agrees to accept custody.
- 19       (3) If a law enforcement officer takes a child into custody pursuant to either  
20       subsection (1)(a) or (1)(b) of this section and transports the child to a crisis  
21       residential center, the officer shall, within twenty-four (24) hours of delivering  
22       the child to the center, provide to the center a written report detailing the reasons  
23       the officer took the child into custody. The center shall provide the department  
24       with a copy of the officer's report.
- 25       (4) If the law enforcement officer who initially takes the juvenile into custody or the  
26       staff of the crisis residential center has reasonable cause to believe that the child  
27       is absent from home because he or she is abused or neglected, a report shall be

1 made immediately to the department.

2 (5) Nothing in this section shall affect the authority of any political subdivision to  
3 make regulations concerning the conduct of minors in public places by ordinance  
4 or other local law.

5 (6) If a law enforcement officer has a reasonable suspicion that a child is being  
6 unlawfully harbored, the officer shall remove the child from the custody of the  
7 person suspected of harboring the child and shall transport the child to a  
8 designated crisis residential center.

9 (7) An officer taking a child into custody shall inform the child of the reason for  
10 custody. An officer taking a child into custody shall release the child to the  
11 supervising agency, or shall take the child to a designated crisis residential  
12 center's secure facility. If the secure facility is not available, not located within a  
13 reasonable distance, or full, the officer shall take the child to a semi-secure crisis  
14 residential center. An officer taking a child into custody may place the child in a  
15 juvenile detention facility as provided or a secure facility, except that the child  
16 shall be taken to detention whenever the officer has been notified that a juvenile  
17 court has entered a detention order under this section. No child may be placed in  
18 a secure facility except as provided in this section.

19 (8) An officer may also have the following options in taking a child into custody:  
20 (a) Transport the child to his or her home or to a parent at his or her place of  
21 employment, if no parent is at home. The parent may request that the  
22 officer take the child to the home of an adult extended family member,  
23 responsible adult, crisis residential center, the Department for Community  
24 Based Services, or a licensed youth shelter. In responding to the request of  
25 the parent, the officer shall take the child to a requested place which, in the  
26 officer's belief, is within a reasonable distance of the parent's home. The  
27 officer releasing a child into the custody of a parent, an adult extended



1 family member, responsible adult, or a licensed youth shelter shall inform  
2 the person receiving the child of the reason for taking the child into custody  
3 and inform all parties of the nature and location of appropriate services  
4 available in the community;

5 (b) After attempting to notify the parent, take the child to a designated crisis  
6 residential center's secure facility or a center's semi-secure facility if a  
7 secure facility is full, not available, or not located within a reasonable  
8 distance if:

9 1. The child expresses fear or distress at the prospect of being returned to  
10 his or her home which leads the officer to believe there is a possibility  
11 that the child is experiencing some type of abuse or neglect;

12 2. It is not practical to transport the child to his or her home or place of  
13 the parent's employment; or

14 3. There is no parent available to accept custody of the child; or

15 (c) After attempting to notify the parent, if a crisis residential center is full, not  
16 available, or not located within a reasonable distance, request the  
17 Department for Community Based Services to accept custody of the child. If  
18 the department determines that an appropriate placement is currently  
19 available, the department shall accept custody and place the child in an out-  
20 of-home placement. Upon accepting custody of a child from the officer, the  
21 department may place the child in an out-of-home placement for up to  
22 seventy-two (72) hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays,  
23 without filing a child in need of services petition, obtaining parental  
24 consent, or obtaining an order for placement. Upon transferring a child to  
25 the department's custody, the officer shall provide written documentation of  
26 the reasons and the statutory basis for taking the child into custody. If the  
27 department declines to accept custody of the child, the officer may release

1           the child after attempting to take the child to the following, in the order  
2           listed:

3           1. The home of an adult extended family member;

4           2. A responsible adult; and

5           3. A licensed youth shelter.

6           (9) The officer shall immediately notify the department if no placement option is  
7           available and the child is released.

8           ➔SECTION 11. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
9 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

10          (1) An officer taking a child into custody shall inform the child of the reason for  
11          custody. An officer taking a child into custody may release the child to the  
12          supervising agency, or shall take the child to a designated crisis residential  
13          center's secure facility. If the secure facility is not available, not located within a  
14          reasonable distance, or full, the officer shall take the child to a semi-secure crisis  
15          residential center. An officer taking a child into custody may place the child in a  
16          juvenile detention facility or a secure facility, except that the child shall be taken  
17          to detention whenever the officer has been notified that a juvenile court has  
18          entered a detention order under Section 10 of this Act.

19          (2) Every officer taking a child into custody shall provide the child and his or her  
20          parent or parents or responsible adult with a copy of the statement specifying the  
21          order.

22          (3) Whenever an officer transfers custody of a child to a crisis residential center or  
23          the Department for Community Based Services, the child may reside in the crisis  
24          residential center or may be placed by the department in an out-of-home  
25          placement for an aggregate total period of time not to exceed seventy-two (72)  
26          hours excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Thereafter, the child may  
27          continue in out-of-home placement only if the parents have consented, a child in

1 need of services petition has been filed, or an order for placement has been  
2 entered.

3 (4) The department shall ensure that all law enforcement authorities are informed  
4 on a regular basis as to the location of all designated secure and semi-secure  
5 facilities within centers in their jurisdiction, where children taken into custody  
6 may be taken.

7 (5) The court shall hold a detention review hearing within twenty-four (24) hours,  
8 excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The court shall release the child  
9 after twenty-four (24) hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, unless:

10 (a) A motion and order to show why the child should not be held in contempt  
11 has been filed and served on the child at or before the detention hearing;  
12 and

13 (b) The court believes that the child would not appear at a hearing on  
14 contempt.

15 (6) If the court orders the child to remain in detention, the court shall set the matter  
16 for a hearing on contempt within seventy-two (72) hours excluding Saturdays,  
17 Sundays, and holidays.

18 ➔SECTION 12. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
19 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

20 (1) The administrator of a designated crisis residential center shall perform the  
21 duties under this section:

22 (a) Upon admitting a child who has been brought to the center by a law  
23 enforcement officer;

24 (b) Upon admitting a child who has run away from home or has requested  
25 admittance to the center;

26 (c) Upon learning from a person that the person is providing shelter to a child  
27 absent from home; or

- 1        (d) Upon learning that a child has been placed with a responsible adult.
- 2        (2) Transportation expenses of the child shall be at the parent's expense to the extent  
3        of his or her ability to pay, with any unmet transportation expenses assumed by  
4        the crisis residential center.
- 5        (3) When any of the circumstances under this section are present, the administrator  
6        of a center shall perform the following duties:
- 7        (a) Immediately notify the child's parent of the child's whereabouts, physical  
8        and emotional condition, and the circumstances surrounding his or her  
9        placement;
- 10       (b) Initially notify the parent that it is the paramount concern of the family  
11       reconciliation service personnel to achieve a reconciliation between the  
12       parent and child to reunify the family and inform the parent as to the  
13       procedures to be followed under Sections 1 to 23 of this Act; and
- 14       (c) Inform the parent whether a referral to child protective services has been  
15       made and, if so, inform the parent of the standards governing child abuse  
16       and neglect in the Commonwealth and either:
- 17       1. Arrange transportation for the child to the residence of the parent, as  
18       soon as practicable, when the child and his or her parent agrees to the  
19       child's return home or when the parent produces a copy of a court  
20       order entered under Sections 1 to 23 of this Act requiring the child to  
21       reside in the parent's home; or
- 22       2. Arrange transportation for the child to:
- 23       a. An out-of-home placement which may include a licensed group  
24       care facility or foster family when agreed to by the child and  
25       parent; or
- 26       b. A certified or licensed mental health or chemical dependency  
27       program of the parent's choice.

1 (4) If the administrator of the crisis residential center performs the duties listed in  
 2 this section, he or she shall also notify the department that a child has been  
 3 admitted to the crisis residential center.

4 (5) The administrator of a crisis residential center shall notify parents, the  
 5 appropriate law enforcement agency, and the Department for Community Based  
 6 Services immediately as to any unauthorized leave from the center by a child  
 7 placed at the center.

8 ➔SECTION 13. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 9 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

10 (1) A child admitted to a secure facility located in a juvenile detention center shall  
 11 remain in the facility for at least twenty-four (24) hours after admission but for  
 12 not more than five (5) consecutive days. A child admitted to a secure facility not  
 13 located in a juvenile detention center or a semi-secure facility may remain in the  
 14 facility for not more than fifteen (15) consecutive days. If a child is transferred  
 15 between a secure and semi-secure facility, the aggregate length of time a child  
 16 may remain in both facilities shall not exceed fifteen (15) consecutive days per  
 17 admission, and in no event may a child's stay in a secure facility located in a  
 18 juvenile detention center exceed five (5) days per admission.

19 (2) (a) 1. The facility administrator shall determine within twenty-four (24)  
 20 hours after a child's admission to a secure facility whether the child is  
 21 likely to remain in a semi-secure facility and may transfer the child to  
 22 a semi-secure facility or release the child to the department. The  
 23 determination shall be based on:

24 a. The need for continued assessment, protection, and treatment of  
 25 the child in a secure facility; and

26 b. The likelihood the child would remain at a semi-secure facility  
 27 until his or her parents can take the child home or a petition can

1 be filed under Section 9 of this Act.

2 2. In making the determination the administrator shall consider the  
3 following information if known:

4 a. The child's age and maturity level;

5 b. The child's condition upon arrival at the center;

6 c. The circumstances that led to the child's being taken to the  
7 center;

8 d. Whether the child's behavior endangers the health, safety, or  
9 welfare of the child or any other person;

10 e. The child's history of running away; and

11 f. The child's willingness to cooperate in the assessment.

12 (b) If the administrator of a secure facility determines the child is unlikely to  
13 remain in a semi-secure facility, the administrator shall keep the child in  
14 the secure facility and in order to provide for space for the child may  
15 transfer another child who has been in the facility for at least seventy-two  
16 (72) hours to a semi-secure facility. The administrator shall only make a  
17 transfer of a child after determining that the child who may be transferred  
18 is likely to remain at the semi-secure facility.

19 (c) A crisis residential center administrator is authorized to transfer a child to a  
20 crisis residential center in the area where the child's parents reside or where  
21 the child's lawfully prescribed residence is located.

22 (d) An administrator may transfer a child from a semi-secure facility to a  
23 secure facility whenever he or she reasonably believes that the child is likely  
24 to leave the semi-secure facility and not return and after full consideration  
25 of all factors.

26 (3) If no parent is available or willing to remove the child during the first seventy-two  
27 (72) hours following admission, the department for shall consider the filing of a

1 petition under Section 9 of this Act.

2 (4) The parents may remove the child at any time unless the staff of the crisis  
3 residential center has reasonable cause to believe that the child is absent from the  
4 home because he or she is abused or neglected or if allegations of abuse or  
5 neglect have been made against the parents. The department or any agency  
6 legally charged with the supervision of a child may remove a child from a crisis  
7 residential center at any time after the first twenty-four (24) hour period after  
8 admission has lapsed and only after full consideration by all parties of the factors  
9 involved.

10 (5) Crisis residential center staff shall make reasonable efforts to protect the child  
11 and facilitate a reconciliation of the family. If a reconciliation and voluntary  
12 return of the child has not occurred within forty-eight (48) hours from the time of  
13 admission, and if the administrator of the center does not consider it likely that  
14 reconciliation will occur within five (5) days of the child's admission to the  
15 center, then the administrator shall inform the parent and child of:

16 (a) The availability of counseling services;

17 (b) The right to file a child in need of services petition for an out-of-home  
18 placement, the right of a parent to file an at-risk youth petition, and the  
19 right of the parent and child to obtain assistance in filing the petition;

20 (c) The right to request the facility administrator or his or her designee to form  
21 a multidisciplinary team;

22 (d) The right to request a review of any out-of-home placement;

23 (e) The right to request a mental health or chemical dependency evaluation by  
24 a county-designated professional or a private treatment facility; and

25 (f) The right to request treatment in a program to address the child's at-risk  
26 behaviors.

27 (6) At no time shall information regarding a parent's or child's rights be withheld.

1 The department shall develop and distribute to all law enforcement agencies and  
2 to each crisis residential center administrator a written statement delineating the  
3 services and rights. The administrator of the facility or his or her designee shall  
4 provide every resident and parent with a copy of the statement.

5 (7) A crisis residential center and any person employed at the center acting in good  
6 faith in carrying out the provisions of this section are immune from criminal or  
7 civil liability for such actions.

8 ➔SECTION 14. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
9 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

10 (1) The department shall establish, through performance-based contracts with  
11 private or public vendors, regional crisis residential centers with semi-secure  
12 facilities. These facilities shall be structured group care facilities licensed under  
13 administrative regulations adopted by the department and shall have an average  
14 of at least four (4) adult staff members and in no event less than three (3) adult  
15 staff members to every eight (8) children.

16 (2) Crisis residential centers shall record client information into a homeless  
17 management information system specified by the department.

18 (3) Within available funds appropriated for this purpose, the department shall  
19 establish, through performance-based contracts with private or public vendors,  
20 regional crisis residential centers with secure facilities. These facilities shall be  
21 facilities licensed under rules adopted by the department. These centers may also  
22 include semi-secure facilities and to that extent shall be subject to subsection (1)  
23 of this section.

24 (4) The department shall, in addition to the facilities established under subsections  
25 (1) and (2) of this section, establish additional crisis residential centers pursuant  
26 to performance-based contracts with licensed private group care facilities.

27 (5) The department is authorized to allow contracting entities to include a



1 combination of secure or semi-secure crisis residential centers in the same  
 2 building or structure. The department shall permit the colocation of these  
 3 concerns only if the entity operating the facility agrees to designate a particular  
 4 number of beds to each type of center that is located within the building or  
 5 structure.

6 (6) The staff at the facilities established under this section shall be trained so that  
 7 they may effectively counsel juveniles admitted to the centers and provide  
 8 treatment, supervision, and structure to the juveniles that recognize the need for  
 9 support and the varying circumstances that cause children to leave their families.

10 (7) The secure facilities located within crisis residential centers shall be operated to  
 11 conform to all applicable state and federal laws. The facilities shall have an  
 12 average of no less than one (1) adult staff member to every ten (10) children. The  
 13 staffing ratio shall ensure the safety of the children.

14 (8) If a secure crisis residential center is located in or adjacent to a secure juvenile  
 15 detention facility, the center shall be operated in a manner that prevents in-  
 16 person contact between the residents of the center and the persons held in the  
 17 facility.

18 ➔SECTION 15. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 19 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

20 (1) If a resident of a crisis residential center becomes disruptive to the facility's  
 21 program the resident may be immediately removed to a separate area within the  
 22 facility and counseled on an individual basis until the resident regains his or her  
 23 composure. The department may promulgate administrative regulations  
 24 establishing additional procedures for dealing with severely disruptive children  
 25 on the premises.

26 (2) When the juvenile resides in this facility, all services deemed necessary to the  
 27 juvenile's reentry to normal family life shall be made available to the juvenile as

1 required by law. In assessing the child and providing these services, the facility  
2 staff shall:

3 (a) Interview the juvenile as soon as possible;

4 (b) Contact the juvenile's parents and arrange for a counseling interview with  
5 the juvenile and his or her parents as soon as possible;

6 (c) Conduct counseling interviews with the juvenile and his or her parents, to  
7 the end that resolution of the child and parent conflict is attained and the  
8 child is returned home as soon as possible;

9 (d) Provide additional crisis counseling as needed, to the end that placement of  
10 the child in the crisis residential center will be required for the shortest time  
11 possible, but not to exceed fifteen (15) consecutive days; and

12 (e) Convene, when appropriate, a multidisciplinary team.

13 (3) Based on the assessments conducted under subsection (2) of this section the  
14 center staff may refer any child who, as the result of a mental or emotional  
15 disorder, or intoxication by alcohol or other drugs, is suicidal, seriously  
16 assaultive, or seriously destructive toward others, or otherwise similarly evidences  
17 an immediate need for emergency medical evaluation and possible care, for  
18 evaluation to a mental health professional, or to a chemical dependency specialist  
19 whenever this action is deemed appropriate and consistent with state law.

20 (4) A juvenile taking unauthorized leave from a facility shall be apprehended and  
21 returned to the facility by law enforcement officers or other persons designated as  
22 having such authority. If returned to the facility after having taken unauthorized  
23 leave for a period of more than twenty-four (24) hours, a juvenile shall be  
24 supervised by the facility for a period, pursuant to Section 13 of this Act, which,  
25 unless otherwise provided, may not exceed fifteen (15) consecutive days. Costs of  
26 housing juveniles admitted to crisis residential centers shall be assumed by the  
27 department for a period not to exceed fifteen (15) consecutive days.

1           ➔SECTION 16. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
2 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

3 (1) A child taken into custody and taken to a crisis residential center may, if the  
4 center is unable to provide appropriate treatment, supervision, and structure to  
5 the child, be taken at department expense to another crisis residential center, the  
6 nearest regional secure crisis residential center, or a secure facility with which it  
7 is colocated. Placement in both locations shall not exceed fifteen (15) consecutive  
8 days from the point of intake.

9 (2) A child taken into custody and taken to a crisis residential center established by  
10 Section 6 of this Act may be placed physically by the department's designee and,  
11 at the department's expense and approval, in a secure juvenile detention facility  
12 operated by the county in which the center is located for a maximum of forty-  
13 eight (48) hours, including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, if the child has  
14 taken unauthorized leave from the center and the person in charge of the center  
15 determines that the center cannot provide supervision and structure adequate to  
16 ensure that the child will not again take unauthorized leave. Juveniles placed in  
17 such a facility pursuant to this section may not, to the extent possible, come in  
18 contact with alleged or convicted juvenile or adult offenders.

19 (3) Any child placed in secure detention pursuant to this section shall, during the  
20 period of confinement, be provided with appropriate treatment by the Department  
21 for Community Based Services which shall include the services defined in this  
22 section. If the child placed in secure detention is not returned home or if an  
23 alternative living arrangement agreeable to the parent and the child is not made  
24 within twenty-four (24) hours after the child's admission, the child shall be taken  
25 at the department's expense to a crisis residential center. Placement in the crisis  
26 residential center or centers plus placement in juvenile detention shall not exceed  
27 five (5) consecutive days from the point of intake.

1 (4) Juvenile detention facilities shall be certified by the department to ensure that  
 2 juveniles placed in the facility are provided with living conditions suitable to the  
 3 well-being of the child. Where space is available, and when certified by the  
 4 department to do so, juvenile courts shall provide secure placement for juveniles  
 5 pursuant to this section at department expense.

6 ➔SECTION 17. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 7 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

8 (1) (a) There is hereby created an ending youth homelessness grant program.

9 (b) The purpose of the program shall be to:

10 1. Prevent and end youth homelessness in the Commonwealth; and

11 2. Address related disparities based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation,  
 12 and gender identity.

13 (2) The department shall:

14 (a) Administer the program;

15 (b) Establish application procedures; and

16 (c) Establish any other procedures or criteria necessary to carry out the  
 17 provisions of this section.

18 (3) (a) The program shall be a competitive, performance-based grant program to  
 19 provide funds for housing and supportive services for unaccompanied  
 20 homeless youth and youth at risk of homelessness.

21 (b) The program may provide grants only to programs that provide services that  
 22 are voluntary and individualized.

23 (c) Recipients of grants from the program may provide supportive services  
 24 directly, or may provide services through sub-recipients or partners.

25 (d) Recipients of grants from the program shall conduct an annual assessment  
 26 of program participants and update and adjust the services offered  
 27 accordingly.

1        (e) Grants appropriated from the program shall be allocated based on an  
2                    assessment of the gaps in existing resources, with a primary focus on  
3                    ensuring access to permanent affordable housing.

4        ➔SECTION 18. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
5 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

6        (1) There is hereby created in the custody of the State Treasurer a separate trust fund  
7                    to be known as the ending youth homelessness grant fund. Revenues to the grant  
8                    shall consist of appropriations by the General Assembly, private contributions,  
9                    and other moneys made available for purposes of the fund.

10       (2) The purpose of the fund is to provide funds to the program.

11       (3) The Department for Community Based Services shall administer the fund.

12       (4) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, fund amounts not expended at the close of a fiscal  
13                    year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

14       (5) The fund may be used only for grants made by the Department for Community  
15                    Based Services for the program.

16       (6) Moneys in the fund are appropriated for the purposes set forth in this section and  
17                    shall not be appropriated or transferred by the General Assembly for any other  
18                    purpose.

19       (7) (a) The State Treasurer shall invest the money of the fund in the same manner  
20                    as other state money may be invested.

21       (b) Any interest earnings of the fund shall be credited to the fund and shall not  
22                    lapse.

23       ➔SECTION 19. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
24 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

25       (1) The department shall establish a process for awarding grants from the ending  
26                    youth homelessness grant fund that is inclusive of currently and formerly  
27                    homeless youth and young adults from diverse geographic regions within the

1 Commonwealth.

2 (2) The grant-making process shall:

3 (a) Ensure that youth and young adults are involved in the planning and  
4 evaluation activities, including by providing opportunities for youth to  
5 participate in decision making;

6 (b) Adequately support youth and young adult participation in the grant-  
7 making process; and

8 (c) To the extent practical, support youth and young adult participation in the  
9 grant-making process through stipends and reasonable reimbursement for  
10 expenses.

11 (3) The department shall engage current or former homeless youth and young adults  
12 and representatives of service provider or advocacy organizations that address  
13 youth and young adult homelessness in the development of requests or proposals  
14 or other grant application materials as may be required.

15 ➔SECTION 20. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
16 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

17 (1) Youth drop-in centers shall provide walk-in access to crisis intervention and  
18 ongoing supportive services including one-to-one case management services on a  
19 self-referral basis. Street and community outreach programs shall locate, contact,  
20 and provide information, referrals, and services to homeless youth, youth at risk  
21 of homelessness, and runaways. Information, referrals, and services provided  
22 may include, but are not limited to:

23 (a) Family reunification services;

24 (b) Conflict resolution or mediation counseling;

25 (c) Assistance in obtaining temporary emergency shelter;

26 (d) Counseling regarding violence, sexual exploitation, substance abuse,  
27 sexually transmitted diseases, and pregnancy;

- 1        (e) Referrals to other agencies that provide support services to homeless youth,  
 2            youth at risk of homelessness, and runaways;  
 3        (f) Assistance with education, employment, and independent living skills;  
 4        (g) Aftercare services;  
 5        (h) Specialized services for highly vulnerable runaways and homeless youth,  
 6            including teen parents, emotionally disturbed and mentally ill youth, and  
 7            sexually exploited youth; and  
 8        (i) Homelessness prevention.

9        ➔SECTION 21. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 10 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 11 (1) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall develop emergency shelter  
 12 programs which shall provide homeless youth and runaways with referral and  
 13 walk-in access to emergency, short-term residential care. The program shall  
 14 provide homeless youth and runaways with safe, dignified shelter, including  
 15 private shower facilities, beds, and at least one (1) meal each day; and shall assist  
 16 runaway and homeless youth with reunification with the family or legal guardian  
 17 when required or appropriate.
- 18 (2) The services provided at emergency shelters may include but are not limited to:
- 19        (a) Family reunification services;  
 20        (b) Individual, family, and group counseling;  
 21        (c) Assistance obtaining clothing;  
 22        (d) Access to medical and dental care and mental health counseling;  
 23        (e) Education and employment services;  
 24        (f) Recreational activities;  
 25        (g) Advocacy and referral services;  
 26        (h) Independent living skills training;  
 27        (i) Aftercare and follow-up services;

1 (j) Transportation; and

2 (k) Homelessness prevention.

3 (3) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall develop transitional living  
4 programs that help homeless youth and young adults at risk of homelessness to  
5 find and maintain safe and dignified housing. The program may also provide  
6 rental assistance and related supportive services, or refer youth to other  
7 organizations or agencies that provide such services. Services provided may  
8 include, but are not limited to:

9 (a) Educational assessment and referrals to educational programs;

10 (b) Career planning, employment, work skill training, and independent living  
11 skills training;

12 (c) Childcare;

13 (d) Transportation assistance and services;

14 (e) Job placement;

15 (f) Budgeting and money management;

16 (g) Assistance in securing housing appropriate to needs and income;

17 (h) Counseling regarding violence, sexual exploitation, substance abuse,  
18 sexually transmitted diseases, and pregnancy;

19 (i) Referral for medical services or chemical dependency treatment;

20 (j) Parenting skills;

21 (k) Self-sufficiency support services or life skill training;

22 (l) Aftercare and follow-up services;

23 (m) Homelessness prevention;

24 (n) Meal plans;

25 (o) Clothes closet;

26 (p) Entrepreneurial training and supports;

27 (q) Referrals to employment and apprenticeship services and direct employment



1           support;  
 2           (r) Health clinic; and  
 3           (s) Other supportive services identified by the youth and young adults and the  
 4           department to be important links for housing stability.

5           (4) Organizations that may receive funds from the ending youth homelessness grant  
 6           fund include nonprofit community or neighborhood-based organizations. The  
 7           department shall provide outreach, technical assistance, and program  
 8           development support to increase capacity to new and existing service providers to  
 9           better meet needs statewide, particularly in areas where services for homeless  
 10           youth have not been established.

11           ➔SECTION 22. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 12 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

13           (1) Six (6) months after the first Kentucky youth and young adult homeless census,  
 14           the department shall, in consultation with the Interagency Council on Youth and  
 15           Young Adult Homelessness, prepare and publish a ten (10) year youth and young  
 16           adult homeless housing strategic plan which shall outline statewide goals and  
 17           performance measures and shall be coordinated with the plan for youth and  
 18           young adult homeless families with children. To guide local governments in  
 19           preparation of their first local youth and young adult homeless housing plans,  
 20           the department shall issue, by October 15, 2019, temporary guidelines consistent  
 21           with Sections 1 to 23 of this Act and including the best available data on each  
 22           community's youth and young adult homeless population.

23           (2) Program outcomes and performance measures and goals shall be created by the  
 24           department and reflected in the department's youth and young adult homeless  
 25           housing strategic plan as well as interim goals against which state and local  
 26           governments' performance may be measured, including:

27           (a) By the end of year one (1), completion of the first census;

- 1        (b) By the end of each subsequent year, goals common to all local programs  
2            which are measurable and the achievement of which would move that  
3            community toward housing its youth and young adult homeless population;  
4            and
- 5        (c) By July 1, 2021, reduction of the homeless population statewide and in each  
6            county by fifty percent (50%).
- 7        (3) The department shall develop a consistent statewide data gathering instrument to  
8            monitor the performance of cities and counties receiving grants in order to  
9            determine compliance with the terms and conditions set forth in the grant  
10           application or required by the department.
- 11       (4) The department shall, in consultation with the Interagency Council on Youth and  
12           Young Adult Homelessness, report biennially to the Governor and the  
13           appropriate committees of the General Assembly an assessment of the state's  
14           performance in furthering the goals of the state ten (10) year youth and young  
15           adult homeless housing strategic plan and the performance of each participating  
16           local government in creating and executing a local youth and young adult  
17           homeless housing plan which meets the requirements of Sections 1 to 23 of this  
18           Act. The annual report may include performance measures such as:
- 19       (a) The reduction in the number of youth and young adult homeless individuals  
20           and families from the initial count of youth and young adult homeless  
21           persons;
- 22       (b) The reduction in the number of unaccompanied homeless youth;
- 23       (c) The number of new units available and affordable for youth and young  
24           adult homeless families by housing type;
- 25       (d) The number of youth and young adult homeless individuals identified who  
26           are not offered suitable housing within thirty (30) days of their request or  
27           identification as homeless;

- 1        (e) The number of youth and young adult households at risk of losing housing  
 2                who maintain it due to a preventive intervention;  
 3        (f) The transition time from homelessness to permanent housing;  
 4        (g) The cost per person housed at each level of the housing continuum;  
 5        (h) The ability to successfully collect data and report performance;  
 6        (i) The extent of collaboration and coordination among public bodies, as well  
 7                as community stakeholders, and the level of community support and  
 8                participation;  
 9        (j) The quality and safety of housing provided; and  
 10        (k) The effectiveness of outreach to youth and young adult homeless persons,  
 11                and their satisfaction with the program.

12        (5) Based on the performance of local youth and young adults homeless housing  
 13                programs in meeting the interim goals, on general population changes, and on  
 14                changes in the youth and young adult homeless population recorded in the  
 15                annual census, the department may revise the performance measures and goals  
 16                of the state youth and young adult homeless housing strategic plan, set goals for  
 17                years following the initial ten (10) year period, and recommend changes in local  
 18                governments' plans.

19        ➔SECTION 23. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 20 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

21        The department shall work with local governments, landlord and tenant associations to  
 22        develop a housing voucher program for homeless youth.

23        ➔SECTION 24. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 156 IS CREATED TO  
 24 READ AS FOLLOWS:

25        (1) By December 31, 2020, the commissioner of the Kentucky Department of  
 26                Education shall establish a uniform process designed to track the additional  
 27                expenditures for transporting homeless students under Sections 1 to 23 of this

1 Act, including expenditures required under the McKinney Vento Homeless  
2 Assistance Act, reauthorized as Title X, Part C, of the No Child Left Behind Act,  
3 Pub. L. No. 107-110, in January 2002. Once established, the commissioner of the  
4 Kentucky Department of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations  
5 to direct each school district to adopt and use the uniform process and track these  
6 expenditures. The commissioner shall post on the department's Web site total  
7 expenditures related to the transportation of homeless students.

8 (2) By January 10, 2021, and every odd-numbered year thereafter, the commissioner  
9 of the Kentucky Department of Education shall report to the Governor and the  
10 General Assembly the following data for homeless students:

11 (a) The number of identified homeless students enrolled in public schools;

12 (b) The number of identified unaccompanied homeless students enrolled in  
13 public schools;

14 (c) The number of students participating in the learning assistance programs;  
15 and

16 (d) The academic performance and educational outcomes of homeless students  
17 and unaccompanied homeless students, including but not limited to the  
18 following performance and educational outcomes:

19 1. Student scores on the statewide administered academic assessments;

20 2. English language proficiency;

21 3. Dropout rates;

22 4. Four (4) year adjusted cohort graduation rate;

23 5. Five (5) year adjusted cohort graduation rate;

24 6. Absenteeism rates;

25 7. Truancy rates, if available; and

26 8. Suspension and expulsion data.

27 (3) The data reported under this section shall include state and district-level

1 information and shall be disaggregated by at least the following subgroups of  
 2 students: white, black, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan native, Asian, Pacific  
 3 islander/Hawaiian native, low income, transitional bilingual, migrant, special  
 4 education, and gender.

5 (4) By July 1, 2020, the commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education, in  
 6 collaboration with experts from community organizations on youth and young  
 7 adult homelessness and homeless education policy, shall develop or acquire a  
 8 short video that provides information on how to identify signs that indicate a  
 9 student may be homeless, how to provide services and support to homeless  
 10 students, and why this identification and support is critical to student success.  
 11 The video shall be posted on the department's Web site.

12 (5) By July 1, 2020, the commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Education  
 13 shall adopt and distribute to each school district best practices for choosing and  
 14 training school district-designated homeless student liaisons.

15 ➔SECTION 25. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 16 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

17 If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is  
 18 held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Act that  
 19 can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the  
 20 provisions of this Act are severable.

21 ➔SECTION 26. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 194A IS CREATED  
 22 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

23 This Act may be cited as the Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Act of 2019.