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

Section 1. KRS 158.183 is amended to read as follows:

(1) Consistent with the Constitutions of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a student shall have the right to carry out an activity described in any of paragraphs (a) to (j) of subsection (2) of this section, if the student does not:

(a) Infringe on the rights of the school to:

1. Maintain order and discipline;
2. Prevent disruption of the educational process; and
3. Determine educational curriculum and assignments;

(b) Harass other persons or coerce other persons to participate in the activity; or

(c) Otherwise infringe on the rights of other persons.

(2) Consistent with the Constitutions of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, a student shall be permitted to voluntarily:

(a) Pray or engage in religious activities in a public school, vocally or silently, alone or with other students to the same extent and under the same circumstances as a student is permitted to vocally or silently reflect, meditate, speak on, or engage in nonreligious matters alone or with other students in the public school;

(b) Express religious or political viewpoints in a public school to the same extent and under the same circumstances as a student is permitted to express viewpoints on nonreligious or nonpolitical topics or subjects in the school;

(c) Express religious or political viewpoints in classroom, homework, artwork, and other written and oral assignments free from discrimination or penalty based on the religious or political content of the submissions;
(d) Speak to and attempt to discuss religious or political viewpoints with other students in a public school to the same extent and under the same circumstances as a student is permitted to speak to and attempt to share nonreligious or nonpolitical viewpoints with other students. However, any student may demand that this speech or these attempts to share religious or political viewpoints not be directed at him or her;

(e) Distribute religious or political literature in a public school, subject to reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions to the same extent and under the same circumstances as a student is permitted to distribute literature on nonreligious or nonpolitical topics or subjects in the school;

(f) Display religious messages on items of clothing to the same extent that a student is permitted to display nonreligious messages on items of clothing;

(g) Access public secondary school facilities during noninstructional time as a member of a religious student organization for activities that may include prayer, Bible reading, or other worship exercises to the same extent that members of nonreligious student organizations are permitted access during noninstructional time;

(h) Use school media, including the public address system, the school newspaper, and school bulletin boards, to announce student religious meetings to the same extent that a student is permitted to use school media to announce student nonreligious meetings;

(i) Meet as a member of a religious student group during noninstructional time in the school day to the same extent that members of nonreligious student groups are permitted to meet, including before and after the school day; and

(j) Be absent, in accordance with attendance policy, from a public school to observe religious holidays and participate in other religious practices to the same extent and under the same circumstances as a student is permitted to be
absent from a public school for nonreligious purposes.

(3) Notwithstanding KRS 158.200 to 158.260, 160.345, and 158.6453(19), a public school or public charter school shall provide instruction and instructional materials that are consistent with the following concepts:

1. All individuals are created equal;

2. Americans are entitled to equal protection under the law;

3. An individual deserves to be treated on the basis of the individual's character rather than on the basis of the individual's race or sex;

4. An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, does not bear responsibility for actions committed by other members of the same race or sex;

5. The understanding that the institution of slavery and post-Civil War laws enforcing racial segregation and discrimination were contrary to the fundamental American promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, as expressed in the Declaration of Independence, but that defining racial disparities solely on the legacy of this institution is destructive to the unification of our nation;

6. The future of America's success is dependent upon cooperation between members of all races;

7. Personal agency and the understanding that, regardless of race, sex, or socioeconomic status, an American has the power to succeed when he or she is given sufficient opportunity and is committed to seizing that opportunity through hard work, pursuit of education, and good citizenship; and

8. The significant value of the democratic principles of equality, freedom, inalienable rights, respect for individual rights, liberty, and the consent of the governed.
(b) Nothing in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be construed to restrict a
public school or public charter school from providing instruction or using
instructional materials that include:

1. The history of an ethnic group, as described in textbooks and
   instructional materials adopted by a school district;

2. The impartial discussion of controversial aspects of history; or

3. The impartial instruction and instructional materials on the historical
   oppression of a particular group of people based on race, ethnicity,
   class, nationality, religion, or geographic region.

(4) Consistent with its obligations to respect the rights secured by the Constitutions of
the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a local board of
education shall ensure that:

(a) 1. The selection of students to speak at official events is made without
   regard to the religious or political viewpoint of the student speaker;

2. The prepared remarks of the student are not altered before delivery,
   except in a viewpoint-neutral manner, unless requested by the student.
   However, student speakers shall not engage in speech that is obscene,
   vulgar, offensively lewd, or indecent; and

3. If the content of the student's speech is such that a reasonable observer
   may perceive affirmative school sponsorship or endorsement of the
   student speaker's religious or political viewpoint, the school shall
   communicate, in writing, orally, or both, that the student's speech does
   not reflect the endorsement, sponsorship, position, or expression of the
   school;

(b) Religious and political organizations are allowed equal access to public
    forums on the same basis as nonreligious and nonpolitical organizations; and

(c) No recognized religious or political student organization is hindered or
discriminated against in the ordering of its internal affairs, selection of leaders and members, defining of doctrines and principles, and resolving of organizational disputes in the furtherance of its mission, or in its determination that only persons committed to its mission should conduct these activities.

Consistent with its obligations to respect the rights secured by the Constitutions of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a local board of education shall permit public schools in the district to sponsor artistic or theatrical programs that advance students' knowledge of society's cultural and religious heritage, as well as provide opportunities for students to study and perform a wide range of music, literature, poetry, and drama.

No action may be maintained under KRS 158.181 to 158.187 unless the student has exhausted the following administrative remedies:

(a) The student or the student's parent or guardian shall state his or her complaint to the school's principal. The principal shall investigate and take appropriate action to ensure the rights of the student are resolved within seven (7) days of the date of the complaint;

(b) If the concerns are not resolved, then the student or the student's parent or guardian shall make a complaint in writing to the superintendent with the specific facts of the alleged violation;

(c) The superintendent shall investigate and take appropriate action to ensure that the rights of the student are resolved within thirty (30) days of the date of the written complaint; and

(d) Only after the superintendent's investigation and action may a student or the student's parent or legal guardian pursue any other legal action.

Section 2. KRS 158.195 is amended to read as follows:

Beginning in the 2019-2020 school year, local boards shall require each public
elementary and secondary school to display the national motto of the United States, "In God We Trust," in a prominent location in the school.

(b) The display required in paragraph (a) of this subsection may take the form of but is not limited to a mounted plaque or student artwork.

(c) For purposes of this section, "prominent location" means a school entryway, cafeteria, or common area where students are likely to see the national motto.

(2) Local boards may allow any teacher or administrator in a public school district of the Commonwealth to read or post in a public school building, classroom, or event any excerpts or portions of: the national motto; the national anthem; the pledge of allegiance; the preamble to the Kentucky Constitution; the Declaration of Independence; the Mayflower Compact; the writings, speeches, documents, and proclamations of the founding fathers and presidents of the United States; United States Supreme Court decisions; and acts of the United States Congress including the published text of the Congressional Record. There shall be no content-based censorship of American history or heritage in the Commonwealth based on religious references in these writings, documents, and records.

(3) Notwithstanding KRS 160.345 and 158.6453(19), the following documents and speeches shall be embedded across middle and high school curricula:

(a) The Mayflower Compact;

(b) The Declaration of Independence;

(c) The Constitution of the United States;

(d) The Federalist No. 1 (Alexander Hamilton);

(e) The Federalist Nos. 10 and 51 (James Madison);

(f) The June 8, 1789, speech on amendments to the Constitution of the United States by James Madison;

(g) The first ten (10) amendments to the Constitution of the United States, also known as the Bill of Rights;
(h) The 1796 Farewell Address by George Washington;
(i) The United States Supreme Court opinion in Marbury v. Madison, 5 U.S. 137 (1803);
(j) The Monroe Doctrine by James Monroe;
(k) What to the Slave is the Fourth of July? speech by Frederick Douglass;
(l) The United States Supreme Court opinion in Dred Scott v. Sandford, 60 U.S. 393 (1857);
(m) Final Emancipation Proclamation by Abraham Lincoln;
(n) The Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln;
(o) Declaration of Rights of the Women of the United States by Susan B. Anthony, Matilda Joslyn Gage, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton;
(p) The September 18, 1895, Atlanta Exposition Address by Booker T. Washington;
(q) Of Booker T. Washington and Others by W.E.B. Du Bois;
(r) The United States Supreme Court opinion in Plessy v. Ferguson, 163 U.S. 537 (1896);
(s) The August 31, 1910, New Nationalism speech by Theodore Roosevelt;
(t) The January 11, 1944, State of the Union Address by Franklin D. Roosevelt;
(u) The United States Supreme Court opinions in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, 347 U.S. 483 (1954) and Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, 349 U.S. 294 (1955);
(v) Letter from Birmingham Jail by Martin Luther King, Jr.;
(w) The August 28, 1963, I Have a Dream speech by Martin Luther King, Jr.;

(4) Notwithstanding the every six (6) year schedule set forth in KRS 158.6453(2)(a),
no later than July 1, 2023, the Kentucky Board of Education shall incorporate the documents and speeches listed in subsection (3) of this section into the grade-level appropriate social studies academic standards and align corresponding assessments. This revision shall not delay or otherwise impact the existing schedule as set forth in KRS 158.6453(2).

Section 3. KRS 161.164 is amended to read as follows:

(1) No employee of the local school district shall take part in the management or activities of any political campaign for school board.

(2) No candidate for school board shall solicit or accept any political assessment, subscription, contribution, or service of any employee of the school district.

(3) No person shall use or promise to use, directly or indirectly, any official authority or influence, whether possessed or anticipated, to secure or attempt to secure for any person an appointment or advantage in appointment to a position as teacher or employee of any district board of education, or an increase in pay or other advantage in employment in any such position, for the purpose of influencing the vote or political action of any person.

(4) No teacher or employee of any district board of education shall be appointed or promoted to, or demoted or dismissed from, any position or in any way favored or discriminated against with respect to employment because of his political or religious opinions or affiliations or ethnic origin or race or color or sex or age or disabling condition.

(5) (a) An employee of a local school district or public charter school shall not be compelled to discuss current events or controversial topics related to public policy or social affairs with students.

(b) Any instruction or instructional materials on current events or controversial topics related to public policy or social affairs provided to public school or public charter school students shall explore those topics from diverse and
contending perspectives without giving deference to any one (1) perspective, regardless of whether the individual that provides the instruction is employed by the local school district or public charter school.

(6) An employee of a public school district or public charter school shall not require, or make part of any course for academic credit:

(a) A student to personally engage in lobbying for legislation at the local, state, or federal level; or

(b) Personally engage in any form of social or public policy advocacy to which the student, or a parent or guardian of a minor student, objects.

(7) An employee of a local school district or public charter school shall not be required to engage in training, orientation, or therapy that presents any form of race or sex stereotyping or blame on the basis of race or sex.

(8) The local superintendent shall inform all school employees of the provisions of this section.

⇒ Section 4. This Act may be cited as the Teaching American Principles Act.