

1 AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Cybersecurity Center 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 164 IS CREATED TO  
5 READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 *(1) The General Assembly hereby finds that there is a growing threat of cyberattacks*  
7 *across Kentucky. There is a need to address this threat by bringing together*  
8 *public and private partners for workforce development, research, innovation, and*  
9 *economic development. The National Security Agency, the United States*  
10 *Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Department of Defense*  
11 *have made significant investments in cybersecurity research, workforce training,*  
12 *and education at the University of Louisville.*

13 *(2) There is hereby created and established the Kentucky Cybersecurity Center within*  
14 *the University of Louisville. For purposes of this Act, the Kentucky Cybersecurity*  
15 *Center shall be known as "KentuckyCYBER." The University of Louisville shall*  
16 *have the authority to hire staff, contract for services, expend funds, and operate*  
17 *the normal business activities of KentuckyCYBER.*

18 *(3) It shall be the purpose of KentuckyCYBER to:*

19 *(a) Facilitate cooperation among universities, primary education facilities, and*  
20 *businesses to create a secure cyberinfrastructure;*

21 *(b) Educate state and local agencies and private sector participants about how*  
22 *to maintain secure cyberinfrastructure; and*

23 *(c) Accelerate the adoption of cybersecurity systems in the Commonwealth by*  
24 *combining the assets of higher education, state and federal agencies, and*  
25 *private companies.*

26 *(4) The duties of KentuckyCYBER shall include but not be limited to:*

27 *(a) Train and upskill a workforce to provide cybersecurity solutions for*

- 1           Kentucky businesses, state and local government, and federal, state, and  
2           local law enforcement;
- 3           **(b) Provide cybersecurity resources, including but not limited to cyber ranges**  
4           **and incident response teams, to assist state and local government, major**  
5           **economic sectors including healthcare and manufacturing, and critical**  
6           **infrastructure systems operators throughout Kentucky;**
- 7           **(c) Enhance economic development through cybersecurity initiatives that serve**  
8           **major economic sectors of Kentucky;**
- 9           **(d) Create a cyber-innovation ecosystem for state and federal government, law**  
10           **enforcement, the private sector, and K-12 and higher education institutions**  
11           **to innovate rapidly and strengthen Kentucky's cybersecurity defenses with a**  
12           **qualified workforce;**
- 13           **(e) Establish a cybersecurity research center and provide support to build the**  
14           **research capacity necessary to successfully compete for projects funded by**  
15           **the federal government and private industry participants; and**
- 16           **(f) Provide nonpartisan cybersecurity advice and recommendations to**  
17           **Kentucky policymakers.**
- 18           **(5) Nothing in this section shall require any entity to cooperate with**  
19           **KentuckyCYBER in carrying out the provisions of this section.**
- 20           **(6) There is hereby created a trust and revolving fund to be known as the**  
21           **KentuckyCYBER fund. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated by the**  
22           **General Assembly, contributions, gifts, or grants made available for the purposes**  
23           **set forth in this section, which shall be excluded from the comprehensive funding**  
24           **model established in KRS 164.092.**
- 25           **(7) The fund shall be administered by the University of Louisville or its designated**  
26           **department.**
- 27           **(8) Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, any moneys remaining in the fund at the close of**

- 1        *the fiscal year shall not lapse but shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year.*
- 2        *(9) Any interest earnings of the fund shall become a part of the fund and shall not*
- 3        *lapse.*
- 4        *(10) Moneys deposited in the fund are hereby appropriated for the purposes set forth*
- 5        *in this section and shall not be appropriated or transferred by the General*
- 6        *Assembly for any other purpose.*