

1 AN ACT relating to economic development, making an appropriation therefor, and
2 declaring an emergency.

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

4 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 141 IS CREATED TO
5 READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 *(1) As used in this section:*

7 *(a) "Approved company" has the same meaning as in Sections 9 and 13 of this*
8 *Act;*

9 *(b) "Authority" has the same meaning as in Sections 9 and 13 of this Act; and*

10 *(c) "Credit" means the economic development credit provided to an approved*
11 *company by the authority in accordance with Section 10 or 17 of this Act.*

12 *(2) (a) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, there shall be*
13 *allowed an economic development credit to an approved company. The*
14 *credit shall be refundable, nontransferable, and allowed against the tax*
15 *imposed under KRS 141.020 or 141.040 and 141.0401, with the ordering of*
16 *the credit as provided in Section 2 of this Act.*

17 *(b) In the case of a pass-through entity not subject to the tax imposed by KRS*
18 *141.040, the credit shall be taken against the tax imposed by KRS 141.0401*
19 *and shall be claimed by the partners, members, or shareholders in*
20 *accordance with their proportionate share of income.*

21 *(c) The amount of the credit that may be claimed in a taxable year by the*
22 *approved company shall be equal to the amount determined in accordance*
23 *with Section 10 or 17 of this Act, as applicable, except the total amount of*
24 *credits claimed by all approved companies under Sections 10 and 17 of this*
25 *Act shall not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) per taxable year.*

26 *(3) (a) The department shall:*

27 *1. Promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS*

- 1 *Chapter 13A to administer the credit;*
- 2 *2. Work with the authority to determine the approved amount of credit or*
- 3 *apportionable share of credit available to be claimed in any taxable*
- 4 *year on a return as filed by an approved company or each partner,*
- 5 *member, or shareholder of an approved company; and*
- 6 *3. Report the following to the authority on the credits claimed under this*
- 7 *section:*
- 8 *a. The total amount of credit awarded for each taxable year, by*
- 9 *county;*
- 10 *b. Each taxpayer claiming a credit; and*
- 11 *c. The total amount of wages paid to a full-time employee by an*
- 12 *approved company and included in its credit computation.*
- 13 *(b) The information required to be reported under this subsection shall not be*
- 14 *considered confidential taxpayer information and shall not be subject to*
- 15 *KRS Chapter 131 or any other provisions of the Kentucky Revised Statutes*
- 16 *prohibiting disclosure or reporting of information.*

17 ➔Section 2. KRS 141.0205 is amended to read as follows:

18 If a taxpayer is entitled to more than one (1) of the tax credits allowed against the tax

19 imposed by KRS 141.020, 141.040, and 141.0401, the priority of application and use of

20 the credits shall be determined as follows:

- 21 (1) The nonrefundable business incentive credits against the tax imposed by KRS
- 22 141.020 shall be taken in the following order:
- 23 (a) The limited liability entity tax credit permitted by KRS 141.0401;
- 24 (b) The economic development credits computed under KRS 141.347, 141.381,
- 25 141.384, 141.3841, 141.400, 141.403, 141.407, 141.415, 154.12-207, and
- 26 154.12-2088;
- 27 (c) The qualified farming operation credit permitted by KRS 141.412;

- 1 (d) The certified rehabilitation credit permitted by KRS 171.397(1)(a);
- 2 (e) The health insurance credit permitted by KRS 141.062;
- 3 (f) The tax paid to other states credit permitted by KRS 141.070;
- 4 (g) The credit for hiring the unemployed permitted by KRS 141.065;
- 5 (h) The recycling or composting equipment credit permitted by KRS 141.390;
- 6 (i) The ~~tax~~ credit for cash contributions in investment funds permitted by KRS
- 7 154.20-263 in effect prior to July 15, 2002, and the credit permitted by KRS
- 8 154.20-258;
- 9 (j) The research facilities credit permitted by KRS 141.395;
- 10 (k) The employer High School Equivalency Diploma program incentive credit
- 11 permitted under KRS 151B.402;
- 12 (l) The voluntary environmental remediation credit permitted by KRS 141.418;
- 13 (m) The biodiesel and renewable diesel credit permitted by KRS 141.423;
- 14 (n) The clean coal incentive credit permitted by KRS 141.428;
- 15 (o) The ethanol credit permitted by KRS 141.4242;
- 16 (p) The cellulosic ethanol credit permitted by KRS 141.4244;
- 17 (q) The energy efficiency credits permitted by KRS 141.436;
- 18 (r) The railroad maintenance and improvement credit permitted by KRS 141.385;
- 19 (s) The Endow Kentucky credit permitted by KRS 141.438;
- 20 (t) The New Markets Development Program credit permitted by KRS 141.434;
- 21 (u) The distilled spirits credit permitted by KRS 141.389;
- 22 (v) The angel investor credit permitted by KRS 141.396;
- 23 (w) The film industry credit permitted by KRS 141.383 for applications approved
- 24 on or after April 27, 2018, but before January 1, 2022;
- 25 (x) The inventory credit permitted by KRS 141.408;
- 26 (y) The renewable chemical production credit permitted by KRS 141.4231; and
- 27 (z) The qualified broadband investment ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.391;

- 1 (2) After the application of the nonrefundable credits in subsection (1) of this section,
2 the nonrefundable personal tax credits against the tax imposed by KRS 141.020
3 shall be taken in the following order:
- 4 (a) The individual credits permitted by KRS 141.020(3);
 - 5 (b) The credit permitted by KRS 141.066;
 - 6 (c) The tuition credit permitted by KRS 141.069;
 - 7 (d) The household and dependent care credit permitted by KRS 141.067;
 - 8 (e) The income gap credit permitted by KRS 141.066; and
 - 9 (f) The Education Opportunity Account Program ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS
10 141.522;
- 11 (3) After the application of the nonrefundable credits provided for in subsection (2) of
12 this section, the refundable credits against the tax imposed by KRS 141.020 shall be
13 taken in the following order:
- 14 (a) The individual withholding tax credit permitted by KRS 141.350;
 - 15 (b) The individual estimated tax payment credit permitted by KRS 141.305;
 - 16 (c) The certified rehabilitation credit permitted by KRS 171.3961, 171.3963, and
17 171.397(1)(b);
 - 18 (d) The film industry ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.383 for applications
19 approved prior to April 27, 2018, or on or after January 1, 2022;
 - 20 (e) The development area ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.398;
 - 21 (f) The decontamination ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.419; ~~and~~
 - 22 (g) The pass-through entity tax credit permitted by KRS 141.209; **and**
 - 23 **(h) The economic development credit permitted by Section 1 of this Act;**
- 24 (4) The nonrefundable credit permitted by KRS 141.0401 shall be applied against the
25 tax imposed by KRS 141.040;
- 26 (5) The following nonrefundable credits shall be applied against the sum of the tax
27 imposed by KRS 141.040 after subtracting the credit provided for in subsection (4)

- 1 of this section, and the tax imposed by KRS 141.0401 in the following order:
- 2 (a) The economic development credits computed under KRS 141.347, 141.381,
3 141.384, 141.3841, 141.400, 141.403, 141.407, 141.415, 154.12-207, and
4 154.12-2088;
- 5 (b) The qualified farming operation credit permitted by KRS 141.412;
- 6 (c) The certified rehabilitation credit permitted by KRS 171.397(1)(a);
- 7 (d) The health insurance credit permitted by KRS 141.062;
- 8 (e) The unemployment credit permitted by KRS 141.065;
- 9 (f) The recycling or composting equipment credit permitted by KRS 141.390;
- 10 (g) The coal conversion credit permitted by KRS 141.041;
- 11 (h) The enterprise zone credit permitted by KRS 154.45-090, for taxable periods
12 ending prior to January 1, 2008;
- 13 (i) The ~~tax~~ credit for cash contributions to investment funds permitted by KRS
14 154.20-263 in effect prior to July 15, 2002, and the credit permitted by KRS
15 154.20-258;
- 16 (j) The research facilities credit permitted by KRS 141.395;
- 17 (k) The employer High School Equivalency Diploma program incentive credit
18 permitted by KRS 151B.402;
- 19 (l) The voluntary environmental remediation credit permitted by KRS 141.418;
- 20 (m) The biodiesel and renewable diesel credit permitted by KRS 141.423;
- 21 (n) The clean coal incentive credit permitted by KRS 141.428;
- 22 (o) The ethanol credit permitted by KRS 141.4242;
- 23 (p) The cellulosic ethanol credit permitted by KRS 141.4244;
- 24 (q) The energy efficiency credits permitted by KRS 141.436;
- 25 (r) The ENERGY STAR home or ENERGY STAR manufactured home credit
26 permitted by KRS 141.437;
- 27 (s) The railroad maintenance and improvement credit permitted by KRS 141.385;

- 1 (t) The railroad expansion credit permitted by KRS 141.386;
- 2 (u) The Endow Kentucky credit permitted by KRS 141.438;
- 3 (v) The New Markets Development Program credit permitted by KRS 141.434;
- 4 (w) The distilled spirits credit permitted by KRS 141.389;
- 5 (x) The film industry credit permitted by KRS 141.383 for applications approved
- 6 on or after April 27, 2018, but before January 1, 2022;
- 7 (y) The inventory credit permitted by KRS 141.408;
- 8 (z) The renewable chemical production ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.4231;
- 9 (aa) The Education Opportunity Account Program ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS
- 10 141.522; and
- 11 (ab) The qualified broadband investment ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.391;
- 12 and
- 13 (6) After the application of the nonrefundable credits in subsection (5) of this section,
- 14 the refundable credits shall be taken in the following order:
- 15 (a) The corporation estimated tax payment credit permitted by KRS 141.044;
- 16 (b) The certified rehabilitation credit permitted by KRS 171.3961, 171.3963, and
- 17 171.397(1)(b);
- 18 (c) The film industry ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.383 for applications
- 19 approved prior to April 27, 2018, or on or after January 1, 2022;
- 20 (d) The decontamination ~~tax~~ credit permitted by KRS 141.419; ~~and~~
- 21 (e) The pass-through entity tax credit permitted by KRS 141.209; **and**
- 22 **(f) The economic development credit permitted by Section 1 of this Act.**
- 23 ➔Section 3. KRS 131.190 is amended to read as follows:
- 24 (1) No present or former commissioner or employee of the department, present or
- 25 former member of a county board of assessment appeals, present or former property
- 26 valuation administrator or employee, present or former secretary or employee of the
- 27 Finance and Administration Cabinet, former secretary or employee of the Revenue

1 Cabinet, or any other person, shall intentionally and without authorization inspect
2 or divulge any information acquired by him or her of the affairs of any person, or
3 information regarding the tax schedules, returns, or reports required to be filed with
4 the department or other proper officer, or any information produced by a hearing or
5 investigation, insofar as the information may have to do with the affairs of the
6 person's business.

- 7 (2) The prohibition established by subsection (1) of this section shall not extend to:
- 8 (a) Information required in prosecutions for making false reports or returns of
9 property for taxation, or any other infraction of the tax laws;
 - 10 (b) Any matter properly entered upon any assessment record, or in any way made
11 a matter of public record;
 - 12 (c) Furnishing any taxpayer or his or her properly authorized agent with
13 information respecting his or her own return;
 - 14 (d) Testimony provided by the commissioner or any employee of the department
15 in any court, or the introduction as evidence of returns or reports filed with the
16 department, in an action for violation of state or federal tax laws or in any
17 action challenging state or federal tax laws;
 - 18 (e) Providing an owner of unmined coal, oil or gas reserves, and other mineral or
19 energy resources assessed under KRS 132.820, or owners of surface land
20 under which the unmined minerals lie, factual information about the owner's
21 property derived from third-party returns filed for that owner's property, under
22 the provisions of KRS 132.820, that is used to determine the owner's
23 assessment. This information shall be provided to the owner on a confidential
24 basis, and the owner shall be subject to the penalties provided in KRS
25 131.990(2). The third-party filer shall be given prior notice of any disclosure
26 of information to the owner that was provided by the third-party filer;
 - 27 (f) Providing to a third-party purchaser pursuant to an order entered in a

- 1 foreclosure action filed in a court of competent jurisdiction, factual
2 information related to the owner or lessee of coal, oil, gas reserves, or any
3 other mineral resources assessed under KRS 132.820. The department may
4 promulgate an administrative regulation establishing a fee schedule for the
5 provision of the information described in this paragraph. Any fee imposed
6 shall not exceed the greater of the actual cost of providing the information or
7 ten dollars (\$10);
- 8 (g) Providing information to a licensing agency, the Transportation Cabinet, or
9 the Kentucky Supreme Court under KRS 131.1817;
- 10 (h) Statistics of gasoline and special fuels gallonage reported to the department
11 under KRS 138.210 to 138.448;
- 12 (i) Providing any utility gross receipts license tax return information that is
13 necessary to administer the provisions of KRS 160.613 to 160.617 to
14 applicable school districts on a confidential basis;
- 15 (j) Providing documents, data, or other information to a third party pursuant to an
16 order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- 17 (k) Publishing administrative writings on its official website in accordance with
18 KRS 131.020(1)(b); or
- 19 (l) Providing information to the Legislative Research Commission under:
- 20 1. KRS 139.519 for purposes of the sales and use tax refund on building
21 materials used for disaster recovery;
- 22 2. KRS 141.436 for purposes of the energy efficiency products credits;
- 23 3. KRS 141.437 for purposes of the ENERGY STAR home and the
24 ENERGY STAR manufactured home credits;
- 25 4. KRS 141.383 for purposes of the film industry incentives;
- 26 5. KRS 154.26-095 for purposes of the Kentucky industrial revitalization
27 credit and the job assessment fees;

- 1 6. KRS 141.068 for purposes of the Kentucky investment fund;
- 2 7. KRS 141.396 for purposes of the angel investor credit;
- 3 8. KRS 141.389 for purposes of the distilled spirits credit;
- 4 9. KRS 141.408 for purposes of the inventory credit;
- 5 10. KRS 141.390 for purposes of the recycling and composting credits;
- 6 11. KRS 141.3841 for purposes of the selling farmer credit;
- 7 12. KRS 141.4231 for purposes of the renewable chemical production
- 8 credit;
- 9 13. KRS 141.524 for purposes of the Education Opportunity Account
- 10 Program credit;
- 11 14. KRS 141.398 for purposes of the development area credit;
- 12 15. KRS 139.516 for purposes of the sales and use tax exemptions for the
- 13 commercial mining of cryptocurrency;
- 14 16. KRS 141.419 for purposes of the decontamination credit;
- 15 17. KRS 141.391 for purposes of the qualified broadband investment credit;
- 16 18. KRS 139.499 for purposes of the sales and use tax exemptions for a
- 17 qualified data center project;~~and~~
- 18 19. KRS 139.5325 for purposes of the sales and use tax incentive for a
- 19 qualifying attraction; **and**

20 **20. Section 1 of this Act for purposes of the economic development credit.**

- 21 (3) The commissioner shall make available any information for official use only and on
- 22 a confidential basis to the proper officer, agency, board or commission of this state,
- 23 any Kentucky county, any Kentucky city, any other state, or the federal
- 24 government, under reciprocal agreements whereby the department shall receive
- 25 similar or useful information in return.
- 26 (4) Access to and inspection of information received from the Internal Revenue Service
- 27 is for department use only, and is restricted to tax administration purposes.

1 Information received from the Internal Revenue Service shall not be made available
2 to any other agency of state government, or any county, city, or other state, and
3 shall not be inspected intentionally and without authorization by any present
4 secretary or employee of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, commissioner or
5 employee of the department, or any other person.

6 (5) Statistics of crude oil as reported to the department under the crude oil excise tax
7 requirements of KRS Chapter 137 and statistics of natural gas production as
8 reported to the department under the natural resources severance tax requirements
9 of KRS Chapter 143A may be made public by the department by release to the
10 Energy and Environment Cabinet, Department for Natural Resources.

11 (6) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, beginning with mine-map
12 submissions for the 1989 tax year, the department may make public or divulge only
13 those portions of mine maps submitted by taxpayers to the department pursuant to
14 KRS Chapter 132 for ad valorem tax purposes that depict the boundaries of mined-
15 out parcel areas. These electronic maps shall not be relied upon to determine actual
16 boundaries of mined-out parcel areas. Property boundaries contained in mine maps
17 required under KRS Chapters 350 and 352 shall not be construed to constitute land
18 surveying or boundary surveys as defined by KRS 322.010 and any administrative
19 regulations promulgated thereto.

20 ➔Section 4. KRS 154.12-204 is amended to read as follows:

21 As used in KRS 154.12-205 to 154.12-208, unless the context requires otherwise:

- 22 (1) "Agribusiness" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
23 (2) "Alternative fuel production" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
24 (3) "Applicant" means a business or industry that has made application for a grant-in-
25 aid or skills training investment credit as authorized by KRS 154.12-205 to 154.12-
26 208;
27 (4) "Approved company" means any qualified company seeking to sponsor an

- 1 occupational upgrade training program or skills upgrade training program for the
2 benefit of one (1) or more of its employees, which is approved by the corporation to
3 receive grant-in-aid or skills training investment credits as provided by KRS
4 154.12-205 to 154.12-208;
- 5 (5) "Approved costs" means costs confirmed as eligible by the corporation, including:
- 6 (a) Fees or salaries required to be paid to instructors who are employees of the
7 approved company, instructors who are full-time, part-time, or adjunct
8 instructors with an educational institution, and instructors who are consultants
9 on contract with an approved company in connection with an occupational
10 upgrade training program or skills upgrade training program sponsored by an
11 approved company;
- 12 (b) The cost of supplies, equipment, and materials used exclusively in an
13 occupational upgrade training program or skills upgrade training program
14 sponsored by an approved company;
- 15 (c) Employee wages to be paid in connection with an occupational upgrade
16 training program or skills upgrade training program sponsored by an approved
17 company; and
- 18 (d) All other costs of a nature comparable to those described in this subsection;
- 19 (6) "Board" means the board of directors of the Bluegrass State Skills Corporation;
- 20 (7) "Carbon dioxide or hydrogen transmission pipeline" has the same meaning as in
21 KRS 154.32-010;
- 22 (8) "Coal severing and processing" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 23 (9) "Corporation" means the Bluegrass State Skills Corporation, or BSSC;
- 24 (10) "Educational institution" means a public or nonpublic secondary or postsecondary
25 institution or an independent provider within the Commonwealth authorized by law
26 to provide a program of skills training or education beyond the secondary school
27 level or to adult persons without a high school diploma or its equivalent;

- 1 (11) "Employee" means any person who is:
- 2 (a) ~~[Who is]~~ Currently a permanent full-time employee of the qualified company;
- 3 (b) Subject to the tax imposed by KRS 141.020~~[Who is a resident of Kentucky,~~
4 ~~as that term is defined in KRS 141.010]~~; and
- 5 (c) ~~[Who is]~~ Paid the minimum base hourly wage plus employee benefits equal to
6 or greater than fifteen percent (15%) of the minimum base hourly wage. If the
7 qualified company does not provide employee benefits equal to at least fifteen
8 percent (15%) of the minimum base hourly wage, the qualified company may
9 still qualify if it provides the full-time employee total hourly compensation
10 equal to or greater than one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of the minimum
11 base hourly wage through increased hourly wages combined with at least one
12 (1) company-paid employee benefit;
- 13 (12) "Energy-efficient alternative fuel production" has the same meaning as in KRS
14 154.32-010;
- 15 (13) "Gasification production" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 16 (14) "Grant-in-aid" means funding that is provided to qualified companies by the BSSC
17 for the development or expansion of a program as provided in this chapter;
- 18 (15) "Headquarters" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 19 (16) "Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking
20 determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores greater than or equal
21 to ninety-seven (97);
- 22 (17) "Hospital" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 23 (18)~~[(17)]~~ "Manufacturing" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 24 (19)~~[(18)]~~ "Minimum base hourly wage" means the minimum wage amount paid to an
25 employee by a qualified company, which shall not be less than:
26 (a) Two~~[One]~~ hundred fifty percent (250%)~~[(150%)]~~ of the federal minimum
27 wage for a company located in a heritage county; or

1 **(b) Three hundred fifty percent (350%) of the federal minimum wage for a**
2 **company located in any other county;**

3 ~~(20)~~~~(19)~~ "Nonretail service or technology" ~~has~~~~means~~ the same **meaning** as in KRS
4 154.32-010;

5 ~~(21)~~~~(20)~~ "Occupational upgrade training" means employee training sponsored by a
6 qualified company that is designed to qualify the employee for a promotional
7 opportunity with the qualified company;

8 ~~(22)~~~~(21)~~ "Program" or "program of skills training or education consistent with
9 employment needs" means a coordinated course of instruction which is designed to
10 prepare individuals for employment in a specific trade, occupation, or profession.
11 Such instruction may include:

12 (a) Classroom instruction;

13 (b) Classroom-related field, shop, factory, office, or laboratory work; and

14 (c) Basic skills, entry level training, job upgrading, retraining, and advance
15 training;

16 ~~(23)~~~~(22)~~ (a) "Qualified company" means any corporation, limited liability company,
17 partnership, limited partnership, sole proprietorship, business trust, or any
18 other legal entity through which business is conducted that is engaged in or is
19 planning to be engaged in one (1) or more of the following activities within
20 the Commonwealth:

21 1. Manufacturing;

22 2. Agribusiness;

23 3. Nonretail service or technology;

24 4. Headquarter operations, regardless of the underlying business activity of
25 the company;

26 5. Alternative fuel, gasification, energy-efficient alternative fuel, or
27 renewable energy production;

- 1 6. Carbon dioxide or hydrogen transmission pipeline;
- 2 7. Coal severing and processing; or
- 3 8. Hospital operations.

4 (b) "Qualified company" does not include companies where the primary activity
5 to be conducted within the Commonwealth is forestry, fishing, the provision
6 of utilities, construction, wholesale trade, retail trade, real estate, rental and
7 leasing, accommodation and food services, or public administration services;

8 ~~(24)~~~~(23)~~ "Renewable energy production" means the same as in KRS 154.32-010;

9 ~~(25)~~~~(24)~~ "Skills upgrade training" means employee training sponsored by a qualified
10 company that is designed to provide the employee with new skills necessary to
11 enhance productivity, improve performance, or retain employment, including but
12 not limited to technical and interpersonal skills, and training that is designed to
13 enhance computer skills, communication skills, problem solving, reading, writing,
14 or math skills of employees who are unable to function effectively on the job due to
15 deficiencies in these areas, are unable to advance on the job, or who risk
16 displacement because their skill deficiencies inhibit their training potential for new
17 technology;

18 ~~(26)~~~~(25)~~ "Skills training investment credit" means the credit against Kentucky income
19 tax imposed by KRS 141.020 or 141.040, and the limited liability entity tax
20 imposed by KRS 141.0401, as provided in this subchapter; and

21 ~~(27)~~~~(26)~~ "Technical assistance" means professional and any other assistance provided
22 by qualified companies to an educational institution, which is reasonably calculated
23 to support directly the development and expansion of a particular program as
24 defined herein.

25 ➔Section 5. KRS 154.12-207 is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) The corporation may, subject to appropriation from the General Assembly or from
27 funds made available to the corporation from any other public or private source,

1 provide grants-in-aid to qualified companies, not in excess of five hundred thousand
2 dollars (\$500,000) per grant-in-aid. Such grants-in-aid shall be used exclusively for
3 programs which are consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

4 (2) The corporation may, in accordance with KRS 154.12-204 to 154.12-208, award a
5 skills training investment credit to an approved company. The amount of the skills
6 training investment credit awarded by the corporation shall be an amount not to
7 exceed fifty percent (50%) of the amount of approved costs incurred by the
8 approved company in connection with its program of occupational upgrade training
9 or skills upgrade training, the credit amount not to exceed **four thousand dollars**
10 **(\$4,000)**~~two thousand dollars (\$2,000)~~ per trainee **for an approved company in a**
11 **heritage county and three thousand dollars (\$3,000) per trainee for an approved**
12 **company located in any other county,** and, in the aggregate, not to exceed five
13 hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for each approved company per fiscal year.
14 The corporation shall only approve one (1) application per fiscal year for each
15 approved company.

16 (3) To apply for a grant-in-aid or a skills training investment credit, a qualified
17 company shall submit an application to the Bluegrass State Skills Corporation
18 before commencing its program of skills upgrade or occupational upgrade training.
19 Each application shall contain information the corporation requires, including but
20 not limited to:

- 21 (a) A proposal for a program of skills upgrade training, occupational upgrade
22 training, and education;
- 23 (b) A description of each component of the proposed training program and the
24 number of employee training hours requested; and
- 25 (c) A statement of the total anticipated costs and expenses of the program,
26 including a breakdown of the costs associated with equipment, personnel,
27 facilities, and materials.

- 1 (4) Approval of the grant-in-aid and skills training investment credit application by the
2 board shall be based upon the following criteria:
- 3 (a) The program must be within the scope of KRS 154.12-204 to 154.12-208;
- 4 (b) Participants in the program must qualify as an employee as defined by KRS
5 154.12-204;
- 6 (c) The program must involve an area of skills upgrade training, occupational
7 upgrade training, and education which is needed by a qualified company and
8 for which a shortage of qualified individuals exists within the
9 Commonwealth; and
- 10 (d) The grant-in-aid and skills training investment credit must be essential to the
11 success of the program as the resources are inadequate to attract the technical
12 assistance and financial support necessary from a qualified company.
- 13 (5) After a review of applications for grant-in-aid and skills training investment credits,
14 the corporation may designate the qualified company as an approved company and
15 approve the maximum amount of grants and skills training investment credits the
16 approved company is eligible to receive. The maximum amount of skills training
17 investment credits approved for all qualified companies by the corporation shall not
18 exceed two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) for each fiscal year.
19 Skills training investment credits that remain unallocated by the corporation at the
20 end of its fiscal year shall lapse and shall not be carried forward to a new fiscal
21 year.
- 22 (6) The approved company shall complete all programs of skills upgrade training or
23 occupational upgrade training within three (3) years~~one (1) year~~ from the date of
24 approval by the corporation and shall certify the completion of these programs to
25 the corporation. Once they are completed and certified and all required
26 documentation is provided and received by the corporation, the corporation shall
27 disburse the grant funds or notify the approved company of the final authorized

1 skills training investment credit.

2 ➔Section 6. KRS 154.21-015 is amended to read as follows:

3 As used in KRS 154.21-010 to 154.21-040:

4 (1) "Cabinet" means the Cabinet for Economic Development;

5 (2) "County population ranking" means the score of each county determined by the
6 cabinet under KRS 154.21-017;

7 (3) "Eligible grant recipient" means a grant applicant that is a local government or an
8 economic development authority in an economic development district in this
9 Commonwealth that is engaged in an eligible project;

10 (4) "Eligible project":

11 (a) Means an economic development project initiated on a property that meets the
12 availability requirements in KRS 154.21-035(3); and

13 (b) Requires local matching funds based on the county population ranking;

14 (5) "Eligible use":

15 (a) Means the authorized purpose for which an awarded grant may be used
16 depending on the source of funds from the Commonwealth; and

17 (b) May include expenditures in any of the following categories or some
18 combination thereof:

19 1. Due diligence study;

20 2. Property acquisition;

21 3. Infrastructure extension or improvement;

22 4. Site preparation work;

23 5. Building construction or renovation; or

24 6. Road improvement;

25 (6) **"Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking**
26 **determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores greater than or equal**
27 **to ninety-seven (97);**

1 (7) "Population density":

2 (a) Means the number of persons per square mile of a county;

3 (b) Is calculated by dividing the total county population by the square miles in the
4 county;

5 (c) Is determined by using the population estimate from the most recent available
6 five (5) year American Community Survey as published by the United States
7 Census Bureau; and

8 (d) Is used to rank each county in descending order, with the county having the
9 largest population density receiving a rank of one (1) and the county with the
10 smallest population density receiving a rank of one hundred twenty (120);

11 (8)~~(7)~~ "Regional project" means an eligible project that is proposed by eligible grant
12 recipients residing in different counties in this Commonwealth who submit a single
13 grant application as co-applicants; and

14 (9)~~(8)~~ "Ten (10) year percentage change in population":

15 (a) Means the percentage change in population within a county;

16 (b) Is determined by comparing the population estimate from the most recent
17 available five (5) year American Community Survey as published by the
18 United States Census Bureau to the same survey ten (10) years prior to the
19 most recent available survey; and

20 (c) Is used to rank each county in descending order, with the county having the
21 largest positive percentage change in population receiving a rank of one (1)
22 and the county with the largest negative percentage change receiving a rank of
23 one hundred twenty (120).

24 ➔Section 7. KRS 154.21-017 is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The Kentucky Product Development Initiative of 2024 is hereby established under
26 the cabinet. The cabinet shall partner with the Kentucky Association for Economic
27 Development to administer the program. The cabinet's administration of the

- 1 program includes:
- 2 (a) Creating and making available a standardized grant application and regional
- 3 grant application;
- 4 (b) Adopting a standardized scoring system pursuant to KRS 154.21-040;
- 5 (c) Reviewing the applications and proposals submitted by the proposed grant
- 6 recipients;
- 7 (d) Verifying the eligibility of the proposed grant recipients;
- 8 (e) Verifying that the proposed grant recipient seeks grant money for an eligible
- 9 project prior to prioritizing all eligible projects;
- 10 (f) Determining the county's population ranking under subsection (3) of this
- 11 section;
- 12 (g) Awarding grants to selected eligible grant recipients in multiple rounds of
- 13 funding; and
- 14 (h) Compiling and submitting the reports required by subsections (3) and (5) of
- 15 this section.
- 16 (2) Upon receipt of eligible grant recipients and eligible project recommendations and
- 17 prioritization from the Kentucky Association for Economic Development and the
- 18 third-party independent site selection consultant, the cabinet shall verify and
- 19 process the eligible grant recipients and eligible project recommendations with the
- 20 intent to approve and award grants under the economic development fund program
- 21 pursuant to KRS 154.12-100 and based on the following criteria:
- 22 (a) Consideration of whether the eligible grant recipient had received a grant
- 23 award from the Kentucky Product Development Initiative of 2022 under KRS
- 24 154.21-020; and
- 25 (b) The matching funds for the selected grant recipient's contribution to its
- 26 eligible project based on the county population ranking determined under
- 27 subsection (3) of this section.

- 1 (3) (a) On or before June 1, 2024, and no later than June 1 every two (2) years
2 thereafter, the cabinet shall determine a county population ranking for each
3 county by adding the following two (2) factors:
- 4 1. The population density ranking; and
 - 5 2. The ten (10) year percentage change in population ranking.
- 6 (b) The required local match for each county shall be as follows:
- 7 1. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is
8 greater than or equal to one hundred ninety-three (193) shall provide a
9 minimum amount of local matching funds equal to ten percent (10%) of
10 the project cost;
 - 11 2. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
12 than one hundred ninety-three (193) but greater than or equal to one
13 hundred forty-five (145) shall provide a minimum amount of local
14 matching funds equal to twelve and one-half percent (12.5%) of the
15 project cost;
 - 16 3. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
17 than one hundred forty-five (145) but greater than or equal to ninety-
18 seven (97) shall provide a minimum amount of local matching funds
19 equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the project cost;
 - 20 4. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
21 than ninety-seven (97) but greater than or equal to forty-nine (49) shall
22 provide a minimum amount of local matching funds equal to seventeen
23 and one-half percent (17.5%) of the project cost;
 - 24 5. Eligible projects in counties where the county population ranking is less
25 than forty-nine (49) shall provide a minimum amount of local matching
26 funds equal to twenty percent (20%) of the project cost; and
 - 27 6. For eligible projects requesting due diligence as an eligible use, the due

1 diligence must be completed prior to acquisition of the site. If the due
2 diligence result leads to the decision to not purchase the site, then the
3 cabinet may expend up to two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) with
4 no local matching funds required. If the amount to be reimbursed by the
5 cabinet exceeds two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), the cabinet
6 shall report to the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and
7 Revenue, or the Senate Standing Committee on Appropriations and
8 Revenue and the House Standing Committee on Appropriations and
9 Revenue, within five (5) days of the disbursement. The report shall
10 include the name and county location of the eligible project approved,
11 the amount of the grant awarded, the amount of the funding disbursed
12 for due diligence and the extenuating circumstances related to the due
13 diligence study.

14 (c) On or before July 1, 2024, and no later than July 1 every two (2) years
15 thereafter, the cabinet shall report to the Legislative Research Commission
16 and the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue the
17 following information for each county:

- 18 1. The county name;
- 19 2. The population density ranking for that county;
- 20 3. The ten (10) year percentage change in population ranking for that
21 county; and
- 22 4. The county population ranking for that county.

23 (d) When awarding grants in this initiative, the cabinet shall not award grants to:

- 24 1. An eligible grant recipient or a group of eligible grant recipients in
25 excess of the amount allocated to the county in which the county is
26 located, except when pooled pursuant to subsection (4) of this section;
27 or

- 1 2. An eligible grant recipient that received a grant award from the
2 Kentucky Product Development Initiative of 2022 prior to all other
3 eligible grant recipients receiving a grant award from the Kentucky
4 Product Development Initiative of 2024 if the eligible project scores are
5 equal to or above the score of an eligible project from an eligible grant
6 recipient who received a grant award from the Kentucky Product
7 Development Initiative of 2022 under KRS 154.21-040, and in the case
8 where the scores are equal, discretion by the Kentucky Association for
9 Economic Development and the cabinet shall be used.
- 10 (e) The maximum funding available for an approved development project is **two**
11 **million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000) in a heritage county**
12 **and** two million dollars (\$2,000,000) **in any other**~~per~~ county, except as
13 permitted by subsection (4) of this section.
- 14 (f) If there are funds available after the first round of grant awards of the
15 Kentucky Product Development Initiative of 2024, the cabinet shall initiate
16 additional rounds of grant awards.
- 17 (4) (a) For selected eligible grant recipients that are involved in a regional project,
18 the cabinet may pool the potential allocation of funds available for each
19 county represented by the eligible grant recipients for the grant amount
20 awarded.
- 21 (b) A county that is an eligible grant recipient involved in a regional project shall
22 provide that county's local matching funds based on the county population
23 ranking determined under subsection (3) of this section and each county's
24 local matching funds may be pooled as described in paragraph (a) of this
25 subsection.
- 26 (5) Beginning no later than November 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until the
27 authorized appropriation is spent or returned, the cabinet shall compile and submit a

1 report for each application approved by the Kentucky Economic Development
2 Finance Authority for the Kentucky Product Development Initiative of 2024. The
3 report shall be electronically delivered to the Legislative Research Commission and
4 the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue and contain the
5 following information:

- 6 (a) The name of the applicant, a description of the eligible project, and the
7 location of each proposed project for which an application was approved;
 - 8 (b) The date the application was approved by the Kentucky Economic
9 Development Finance Authority;
 - 10 (c) The amount of funding authorized for each project approved;
 - 11 (d) The total amount of funding disbursed for each project approved; and
 - 12 (e) The round of funding for which each project received approval.
- 13 (6) The Kentucky Product Development Initiative of 2024 shall begin July 1, 2024.

14 ➔Section 8. KRS 154.21-035 is amended to read as follows:

- 15 (1) The Kentucky Association for Economic Development shall evaluate each
16 applicant's eligible project according to the criteria described in this section and
17 KRS 154.21-040 for the purposes of compiling a recommendation and score for the
18 eligible project and project site pursuant to KRS 154.21-040.
- 19 (2) The Kentucky Association for Economic Development and the third-party
20 independent site selection consultant shall consider the requirements in the
21 following five (5) categories in the evaluation of proposed projects:
 - 22 (a) Property availability as described in subsection (3) of this section;
 - 23 (b) Property development ability as described in subsection (4) of this section;
 - 24 (c) Zoning availability as described in subsection (5) of this section;
 - 25 (d) Transportation accessibility as described in subsection (6) of this section; and
 - 26 (e) Utility adequacy as described in subsection (7) of this section.
- 27 (3) The property that the eligible project occupies or is proposed to occupy shall be

- 1 available. Property shall be deemed available for the purposes of this program:
- 2 (a) If the property is publicly owned; or
- 3 (b) If the project's eligible use includes property acquisition or a due diligence
- 4 study. In this situation the application shall include one (1) of the following:
- 5 1. A legally binding letter of intent or option for the sale to an eligible
- 6 grant recipient; or
- 7 2. An agreement for the sale to an eligible recipient.
- 8 (4) The property that the eligible project occupies or is proposed to occupy shall be
- 9 developable. Property shall be deemed developable if:
- 10 (a) The acreage intended for development is clearly defined by either:
- 11 1. The grant applicant; or
- 12 2. An engineering partner during or after a site visit, if the applicant is
- 13 unable to define the developable acreage; and
- 14 (b) The property is free of impediments to development, or a known impediment
- 15 can be mitigated by a grant applicant. A property is free of impediments if it:
- 16 1. Is located outside of the one hundred (100) year and five hundred (500)
- 17 year flood zone;
- 18 2. Is free of recognized environmental conditions;
- 19 3. Is free of wetlands;
- 20 4. Is free of state and federally threatened and endangered species;
- 21 5. Is free of areas of archaeological or historical significance; and
- 22 6. Possesses soils compatible with the grant applicant's intended
- 23 development.
- 24 (5) The property that the eligible project occupies or is proposed to occupy shall be
- 25 appropriately zoned for the intended use or shall be able to be rezoned within ninety
- 26 (90) calendar days. The properties surrounding the grant applicant's project site
- 27 shall be zoned so they are compatible with the grant applicant's intended

1 development and use of the project site.

2 (6) The property that the eligible project occupies or is proposed to occupy shall be
3 directly served by a road or roads that are compatible with the intended use of the
4 property. Additionally, if the property is marketed as rail-served, the property shall
5 be deemed rail-served if:

6 (a) The grant applicant provides documentation from the rail provider that
7 evinces that rail infrastructure exists and the rail provider actually provides
8 rail service; or

9 (b) If the rail service does not exist at the time of the grant application, the grant
10 applicant provides documentation from the rail provider that evinces that the
11 project site will be able to be rail-served within twelve (12) months.

12 (7) The property that the eligible project occupies or is proposed to occupy shall have
13 access to adequate utilities and shall be served or able to be served by the
14 following:

15 (a) Electric infrastructure;

16 (b) Natural gas ***or propane***;

17 (c) Water infrastructure and a public water system;

18 (d) Wastewater infrastructure and a public wastewater treatment plant, excluding
19 a septic wastewater treatment system; and

20 (e) Fiber telecommunications infrastructure.

21 ➔Section 9. KRS 154.25-010 is amended to read as follows:

22 As used in this subchapter:

23 (1) "Activation date" means a date selected by an approved company and set forth in
24 the jobs retention agreement at any time within a three (3) year period after the date
25 of final approval of the agreement by the authority upon which the required
26 investment shall be made and the jobs retention project completed;

27 (2) "Agreement" means a jobs retention agreement entered into pursuant to KRS

1 154.25-030 on behalf of the authority and an approved company with respect to a
2 jobs retention project;

3 (3) "Agribusiness" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

4 (4) "Approved company" means any eligible company approved by the authority
5 pursuant to KRS 154.25-030 for a jobs retention project;

6 (5) "Approved costs" means that portion of the eligible costs approved by the authority
7 that an approved company may recover through the inducements authorized by
8 KRS 154.25-030, being a percentage of eligible costs as approved by the authority;

9 (6) "Assessment" means the wage assessment fee authorized by KRS 154.25-040;

10 (7) "Authority" means the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority
11 created by KRS 154.20-010;

12 (8) "Commonwealth" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky;

13 (9) "Eligible company":

14 (a) Means any corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited
15 partnership, sole proprietorship, business trust, or any other entity that has
16 been operating within the Commonwealth on a continuous basis for at least
17 sixty (60) months preceding the request for approval by the authority of the
18 project which meets the standards set forth in KRS 154.25-020, has been
19 previously approved for economic development incentives from the
20 Commonwealth related to one (1) or more of its facilities, and employs a
21 minimum of **two hundred fifty (250) full-time persons for a project located**
22 **in a heritage county or** one thousand (1,000) full-time persons **for a project**
23 **located in any other county,** engaged in one (1) or more of the following
24 activities:

25 1.(a) Manufacturing;

26 2.(b) Agribusiness;

27 3.(c) Nonretail service or technology; or

- 1 (f) All other costs comparable with those described above;
- 2 (11) "Final approval" means the action taken by the authority authorizing the eligible
3 company to receive inducements under this subchapter;
- 4 (12) "Headquarters" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 5 (13) **"Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking**
6 **determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores greater than or equal**
7 **to ninety-seven (97);**
- 8 **(14)** "Inducements" means the Kentucky tax credit and the wage assessment fee as
9 prescribed in KRS 154.25-030 and 154.25-040;
- 10 **(15)**~~(14)~~ "Jobs retention project" or "project" means the acquisition, construction, and
11 installation of new equipment and, with respect thereto, the construction,
12 rehabilitation, and installation of improvements to facilities necessary to house the
13 acquisition, construction, and installation of new equipment, including surveys;
14 installation of utilities, including water, sewer, sewage treatment, gas, electricity,
15 communications, and similar facilities; off-site construction of utility extensions to
16 the boundaries of the real estate on which the facilities are located; and shall contain
17 eligible costs of not less than **twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for a**
18 **project located in a heritage county or** one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000)
19 **for a project located in any other county,** all of which are utilized to improve the
20 economic and operational situation of an approved company to allow the approved
21 company to reinvest in its operations and retain a significant number of existing
22 jobs within the Commonwealth;
- 23 **(16)**~~(15)~~ "Kentucky gross profits" means Kentucky gross profits as defined in KRS
24 141.0401;
- 25 **(17)**~~(16)~~ "Kentucky gross receipts" means Kentucky gross receipts as defined in KRS
26 141.0401;
- 27 **(18)**~~(17)~~ "Manufacturing" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

1 ~~(19)~~~~(18)~~ "Nonretail service or technology" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-
2 010;

3 ~~(20)~~~~(19)~~ "Preliminary approval" means the action taken by the authority conditioning
4 final approval by the authority upon satisfaction by the eligible company of the
5 requirements under this subchapter;

6 ~~(21)~~~~(20)~~ "Supplemental project" means an additional jobs retention project proposed
7 by the approved company or its affiliate during the term of a previously approved
8 jobs retention project, which may be included in the jobs retention agreement by
9 way of amendment and which may result in increased inducements and an
10 extension of the original project term as set forth in KRS 154.25-050; and

11 ~~(22)~~~~(21)~~ "Transferred credits" means unused approved costs as determined by the
12 Department of Revenue from a previously approved, independent, active project
13 under a different incentive program governed by the Cabinet for Economic
14 Development that may be transferred to a jobs retention project and used by the
15 approved company pursuant to a jobs retention agreement.

16 ➔Section 10. KRS 154.25-030 is amended to read as follows:

17 (1) The authority, upon adoption of its final approval, may enter into, with any
18 approved company, an agreement with respect to the jobs retention project. The
19 terms and provisions of each agreement, including the amount of approved costs,
20 the amount of the inducement, the job maintenance requirement, and any
21 limitations the authority may deem necessary, shall be determined by negotiations
22 between the authority and the approved company, except that each agreement shall
23 include the following provisions:

24 (a) The amount the approved company may recover through inducements under
25 this subchapter for the initial project, which shall be a negotiated percentage
26 not to exceed fifty percent (50%) of eligible costs. However, the authority
27 may negotiate an increase in the percentage such that both the initial project

1 and any supplemental projects are eligible for seventy-five percent (75%) of
2 eligible costs upon approval of a supplemental project. The adjustment to the
3 initial project shall be made on the total approved costs and any credits taken
4 prior to the addition of a supplemental project shall then be subtracted from
5 that increased amount of approved costs. Neither the initial project nor any
6 supplemental project shall ever be eligible for inducements greater than
7 seventy-five percent (75%) of the eligible costs. The authority shall negotiate
8 a maximum allowable inducement for each year of the agreement, and the
9 approved company may not recover inducements above that maximum in any
10 year during the term of the agreement, except that the annual maximum
11 allowable inducement may be exceeded if a carry-forward of unused
12 inducements from previous years exists. Any carry-forward of unused
13 inducements will lapse upon maturity or termination of the agreement;

14 (b) A provision that sets the activation date for the initial project within three (3)
15 years of the final approval. Prior to the activation date, the authority may
16 extend the time for the completion of the jobs retention project and
17 compliance with the required investment upon request of the approved
18 company for good cause; however, the ten (10) year period for the term of the
19 agreement shall begin from the activation date. No inducements from the jobs
20 retention project shall be available, other than the transferred credits provided
21 for under subsection (2) of this section, until activation. Upon activation, the
22 balance of transferred credits shall expire;

23 (c) A provision that states that within three (3) months of the completion of the
24 jobs retention project, the approved company shall document the actual cost
25 of the project in a manner acceptable to the authority. The authority may
26 employ an independent consultant or utilize technical resources to verify the
27 cost of the project. The approved company shall reimburse the authority for

- 1 the cost of the consultant;
- 2 (d) A provision that establishes a minimum required number of full-time jobs that
 3 must be maintained at the site of the jobs retention project and filled with
 4 residents of the Commonwealth subject to Kentucky income tax and states
 5 that the authorized inducements may be suspended at the discretion of the
 6 authority from the date of noncompliance until the date compliance is
 7 reestablished if the approved company's employment falls below the
 8 established minimum employment requirement. If the company does not
 9 increase the number of full-time employees at the site who are residents of the
 10 Commonwealth and subject to Kentucky income tax sufficiently to meet the
 11 minimum employment requirement within one (1) year from the date of the
 12 initial suspension, the remaining unused inducements may be terminated at
 13 the discretion of the authority;
- 14 (e) A provision that gives the authority discretion to suspend or terminate the
 15 authorized inducements for any failure to comply with the terms of the
 16 agreement; and
- 17 (f) 1. A provision that provides the term shall not be longer than the earlier of:
 18 a.~~[1.]~~The date on which the approved company has received
 19 inducements or withheld assessments equal to the amount that the
 20 company may recover under paragraph (a) of this subsection; or
 21 b.~~[2.]~~Ten (10) years from the activation date.
- 22 2. ~~[However,]~~The term *in subparagraph 1. of this paragraph* may be
 23 extended to a period longer than ten (10) years upon:
 24 a. *The approved company demonstrating that less than seventy-five*
 25 *percent (75%) of the incentives awarded under the agreement*
 26 *will be claimed during the term of the agreement; or*
 27 b. The addition of a supplemental project as negotiated and approved

1 by the authority.

2 **3. An extension of the term shall not amend any provision of the**
3 **agreement impacting the scope of the project or the maximum amount**
4 **of incentives awarded under the agreement.**

5 (2) In consideration of the execution of the agreement, during the time the agreement is
6 in effect, which time shall commence on the date of the agreement, the approved
7 company may be permitted the following inducements:

8 (a) Beginning on the effective date of the jobs retention agreement, which shall
9 also be the date of final approval, if the approved company has a balance of
10 unused approved costs on a previously existing and active incentive
11 agreement approved by the authority pursuant to KRS Chapter 154, the
12 approved company may impose wage assessments on employees whose jobs
13 are at the facility where the project defined in the previously existing
14 incentive agreement was located. The wage assessments may be imposed as
15 provided in KRS 154.25-040, and shall be available in an amount up to the
16 balance of transferred credits from the previously existing project.

17 1. The transferred credits shall only be available to the approved company
18 until the activation date, the term from the original incentive agreement
19 expires, or the balance of transferred credits is exhausted, whichever
20 occurs first; and

21 2. Should the approved company exercise this option, the incentive
22 agreement from which the credits were transferred shall be terminated
23 upon transfer and all parties shall be released from their obligations
24 thereunder.

25 (b) After the activation date:

26 1. A one hundred percent (100%) credit against the taxes imposed by KRS
27 141.020, 141.040, and 141.0401 that would otherwise be owed by the

- 1 approved company, in the approved company's taxable year, as
2 determined under KRS 141.402, on the taxable income, Kentucky gross
3 receipts, or Kentucky gross profits of the approved company generated
4 by or arising from the jobs retention project. The ordering of credits
5 shall be as provided in KRS 141.0205;
- 6 2. The aggregate assessment withheld by the approved company as
7 provided in KRS 154.25-040 in each year after the activation date;
- 8 (c) The tax credits allowed to the approved company shall be equal to the lesser
9 of the total amount of the tax liability or the amount that the company may
10 recover under subsection (1)(a) of this section that has not yet been recovered,
11 reduced by any recovery through the collection of assessments subject to the
12 annual maximum inducements authorized pursuant to subsection (1)(a) of this
13 section. The credit shall be allowed for each taxable year of the approved
14 company during the term of the agreement and for which a tax return of the
15 approved company is filed until the amount that the company may recover
16 under subsection (1)(a) of this section has been received through a
17 combination of credits and assessments, if the company elects to impose
18 assessments. The approved company shall not be required to pay estimated
19 tax payments as prescribed under KRS 141.044 or 141.305 on income,
20 Kentucky gross profits, or Kentucky gross receipts from the jobs retention
21 project. One hundred eighty (180) days after the filing of the tax return of the
22 approved company, the Department of Revenue shall certify to the authority
23 the state tax liability for the preceding taxable year of the approved company
24 and the amount of any tax credits taken pursuant to this section;
- 25 (d) Prior to execution of the agreement, the eligible company shall secure from all
26 local governmental authorities responsible for collecting local occupational
27 license fees a resolution or order of the local governmental entities

1 acknowledging and consenting to the termination or partial termination of the
2 receipt of local occupational license fees on wages subject to the agreement
3 paid by the approved company on behalf of its employees to the local
4 government entities;

5 (e) If more than one (1) local occupational license fee is imposed upon the
6 employees of the approved company, the assessment imposed upon the
7 employees shall be credited against the local occupational license fee and
8 shall be apportioned to each local occupational license fee according to each
9 local occupational license fee's proportion to the total of all local occupational
10 license fees for such employees. No credit or portion thereof shall be allowed
11 against any local occupational license fee imposed by or dedicated solely to a
12 local board of education; and

13 (f) If, in any taxable year of the approved company during which the agreement
14 is in effect, the assessment collected from the wages of the employees exceeds
15 the expended portion of the amount that the approved company may recover
16 under paragraph (a) of this subsection, or exceeds the annual maximum
17 negotiated by the authority, the assessment collected from the wages of the
18 employees shall cease for the remainder of that taxable year of the approved
19 company. The approved company shall resume normal personal income tax
20 and occupational license fee withholdings from the employees' wages for the
21 remainder of that taxable year, and the approved company shall remit to the
22 Commonwealth and applicable local jurisdictions their respective shares of
23 the excess assessment collected on the withholding filing date for employees'
24 wages next succeeding the first date when the approved company collected
25 excess assessments.

26 (3) *(a) An approved company receiving preliminary approval after July 1, 2026,*
27 *may receive, in addition to inducements provided under subsections (1) and*

1 *(2) of this section, a credit as provided under Section 1 of this Act in an*
 2 *amount up to one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the wages paid to full-time*
 3 *employees who are subject to the tax imposed by KRS 141.020 and*
 4 *maintained at a jobs retention project located in a heritage county.*

5 *(b) The cumulative credits awarded:*

6 *1. To an approved company under this subsection for any year of the*
 7 *agreement shall not exceed the annual maximum approved costs of*
 8 *the jobs retention project as provided in the agreement; and*

9 *2. To all approved companies under this subsection and subsection (6) of*
 10 *Section 17 of this Act shall not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000)*
 11 *per taxable year.*

12 *(4)* The jobs retention agreement and inducements available pursuant thereto shall not
 13 be transferable or assignable by the approved company without the expressed
 14 written consent of the authority.

15 ➔Section 11. KRS 154.25-040 is amended to read as follows:

16 (1) The approved company may require that each employee subject to the income tax
 17 imposed by KRS 141.020, whose job was preserved or created as a result of the
 18 project, as a condition of employment or the retention of employment, agree to pay
 19 an assessment up to one hundred percent (100%) of the individual income tax rate
 20 imposed by KRS 141.020 for each employee subject to the income tax imposed by
 21 KRS 141.020. The Commonwealth's wage assessment shall be equal to the
 22 following:

23 (a) Up to eighty percent (80%) of the individual income tax rate imposed by KRS
 24 141.020 if the project is located in a local jurisdiction where:

25 1. No local occupational license fee is imposed;

26 2. a. A local occupational fee greater than or equal to twenty percent
 27 (20%) of the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is

- 1 imposed; and
- 2 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo the local wage assessment of
- 3 at least twenty percent (20%) of the individual income tax rate
- 4 imposed by KRS 141.020 via credits against the local occupational
- 5 license fee for the affected employees; or
- 6 3. a. A local occupational license fee less than twenty percent (20%) of
- 7 the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is imposed; and
- 8 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo the total amount of the local
- 9 occupational license fee as the local wage assessment; or
- 10 (b) Up to four (4) times the forgone local wage assessment rate if the project is
- 11 located in a local jurisdiction where:
- 12 1. a. A local occupational license fee greater than or equal to twenty
- 13 percent (20%) of the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is
- 14 imposed; and
- 15 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo an amount of the local
- 16 occupational license fee that is less than twenty percent (20%) of
- 17 the individual income tax rate imposed by KRS 141.020 as the
- 18 local wage assessment; or
- 19 2. a. A local occupational license fee less than twenty percent (20%) of
- 20 the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is imposed; and
- 21 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo only a portion of the total
- 22 amount of the local occupational license fee as the local wage
- 23 assessment.
- 24 (2) Each assessed employee shall be entitled to a credit against the Kentucky income
- 25 tax required to be withheld under KRS 141.310 in the form of a simultaneous
- 26 adjustment equal to the Commonwealth's assessment outlined in subsection (1) of
- 27 this section.

- 1 (3) Each employee assessed under subsection (1) of this section also shall be entitled to
2 a credit against the local occupational license fee in the form of a simultaneous
3 adjustment of the local occupational license fee withholding equal to the local wage
4 assessment outlined in subsection (1) of this section.
- 5 (4) If an approved company elects to impose the assessment as a condition of
6 employment or the retention of employment, the approved company shall deduct
7 the assessment from each paycheck of each employee subject to the provisions of
8 subsections (2) and (3) of this section.
- 9 (5) Any approved company collecting an assessment shall make its payroll books and
10 records available to the authority at such reasonable times as the authority shall
11 request and shall file with the authority the documentation respecting the
12 assessment the authority may require.
- 13 (6) Any assessment of the wages of the employees of an approved company shall
14 permanently lapse upon expiration or termination of the agreement unless the
15 agreement has been amended to extend the termination as a result of a supplemental
16 project.
- 17 (7) (a) By October 1 of each year, the Department of Revenue shall certify to the
18 authority, in the form of an annual report, aggregate tax credits claimed on tax
19 returns filed during the taxable year ending June 30 of that year and wage
20 assessment fees taken during the prior calendar year by approved companies
21 with respect to their jobs retention projects under this subchapter, and shall
22 certify to the authority, within one hundred eighty (180) days from the date an
23 approved company has filed its state tax return, when an approved company
24 has taken tax credits equal to its total inducements.
- 25 **(b) For the economic development credit provided under Section 1 of this Act,**
26 **the Department of Revenue shall report to the authority the total amount of**
27 **economic development credits awarded for each taxable year, by county,**

1 including the following:

2 1. Each approved company awarded a credit; and

3 2. The total amount of wages paid to a full-time employee by an
4 approved company and included in the credit computation.

5 (8) On a semiannual basis, by May 1 and November 1 of each year, the cabinet shall
6 prepare a report of the economic development credit provided under Section 10 of
7 this Act to be submitted to the Governor and the Legislative Research
8 Commission for referral to Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and
9 Revenue and made available on the cabinet's website. The report shall include
10 but not be limited to the following:

11 (a) A summary of the economic development credits received and relevant
12 statistics relating to actions taken by the cabinet, including:

13 1. The approved company;

14 2. The total amount of economic development credits awarded;

15 3. The number of jobs retained; and

16 4. The annual maximum approved costs of the jobs retention project;

17 (b) The annual total of the economic development credit received; and

18 (c) Recommendations for legislation or policy actions needed to increase the
19 number of jobs retention projects.

20 ➔Section 12. KRS 154.25-050 is amended to read as follows:

21 (1) If an approved company makes additional investments in the form of additional
22 jobs retention projects during the term of the initial jobs retention project, the
23 approved company may apply for, and the authority may approve, a supplemental
24 project.

25 (2) The authority, upon adoption of its final approval of a supplemental project, may
26 enter into, with any approved company, an amended agreement with respect to both
27 the initial jobs retention project and the supplemental project which shall jointly

1 make up its project. The terms and provisions of each amended agreement,
2 including the amount of approved costs, the amount of the tax credit pursuant to
3 KRS 154.25-030, the job maintenance requirement established by the agreement,
4 and any limitations the authority may deem necessary, shall be determined by
5 negotiations between the authority and the approved company, except that each
6 agreement shall include the following provisions:

7 (a) Upon approval of a supplemental project, the amount the approved company
8 may recover through inducements for the initial project and any supplemental
9 projects shall be a negotiated percentage not to exceed seventy-five percent
10 (75%) of the eligible costs from the initial project and all newly incurred
11 eligible costs from any supplemental projects, subject to the annual maximum
12 negotiated and approved by the authority. At the time a supplemental project
13 is approved, the recoverable amount and the annual maximum inducement for
14 the initial jobs retention project and any previous supplemental projects may
15 also be increased at the discretion of the authority pursuant to KRS 154.25-
16 030.

17 (b) The activation date for a supplemental project shall be no more than three (3)
18 years from final approval of the supplemental project. Prior to the activation
19 date, the authority may extend the time for the completion of the jobs
20 retention project and compliance with the required investment upon request of
21 the approved company for good cause; however, the ten (10) year period for
22 the term of the agreement shall begin from the activation date. Within three
23 (3) months of the completion date for a supplemental project, the approved
24 company shall document the actual cost of the project in a manner acceptable
25 to the authority. The authority may employ an independent consultant to
26 verify the cost of the supplemental project subject to reimbursement for the
27 cost of same from the approved company.

1 (c) In consideration of the execution of the amended agreement, on the date
2 stated in the agreement, the approved company may be permitted during the
3 term of the amended agreement to take the inducements set forth in KRS
4 154.25-030(2)(b), ~~and~~ (2)(c), and (3)(a), subject to the remaining terms of
5 that section.

6 →Section 13. KRS 154.32-010 is amended to read as follows:

7 *As used in this subchapter:*

- 8 (1) "Activation date" means the date established in the tax incentive agreement that is
9 within two (2) years of final approval;
- 10 (2) "Affiliate" means the following:
- 11 (a) Members of a family, including only brothers and sisters of the whole or half
12 blood, spouse, ancestors, and lineal descendants of an individual;
- 13 (b) An individual, and a corporation more than fifty percent (50%) in value of the
14 outstanding stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, by or for that
15 individual;
- 16 (c) An individual, and a limited liability company of which more than fifty
17 percent (50%) of the capital interest or profits are owned or controlled,
18 directly or indirectly, by or for that individual;
- 19 (d) Two (2) corporations which are members of the same controlled group, which
20 includes and is limited to:
- 21 1. One (1) or more chains of corporations connected through stock
22 ownership with a common parent corporation if:
- 23 a. Stock possessing more than fifty percent (50%) of the total
24 combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote or
25 more than fifty percent (50%) of the total value of shares of all
26 classes of stock of each of the corporations, except the common
27 parent corporation, is owned by one (1) or more of the other

- 1 corporations; and
- 2 b. The common parent corporation owns stock possessing more than
- 3 fifty percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of all
- 4 classes of stock entitled to vote or more than fifty percent (50%) of
- 5 the total value of shares of all classes of stock of at least one (1) of
- 6 the other corporations, excluding, in computing the voting power
- 7 or value, stock owned directly by the other corporations; or
- 8 2. Two (2) or more corporations if five (5) or fewer persons who are
- 9 individuals, estates, or trusts own stock possessing more than fifty
- 10 percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock
- 11 entitled to vote or more than fifty percent (50%) of the total value of
- 12 shares of all classes of stock of each corporation, taking into account the
- 13 stock ownership of each person only to the extent the stock ownership is
- 14 identical with respect to each corporation;
- 15 (e) A grantor and a fiduciary of any trust;
- 16 (f) A fiduciary of a trust and a fiduciary of another trust, if the same person is a
- 17 grantor of both trusts;
- 18 (g) A fiduciary of a trust and a beneficiary of that trust;
- 19 (h) A fiduciary of a trust and a beneficiary of another trust, if the same person is a
- 20 grantor of both trusts;
- 21 (i) A fiduciary of a trust and a corporation more than fifty percent (50%) in value
- 22 of the outstanding stock of which is owned, directly or indirectly, by or for the
- 23 trust or by or for a person who is a grantor of the trust;
- 24 (j) A fiduciary of a trust and a limited liability company more than fifty percent
- 25 (50%) of the capital interest, or the interest in profits, of which is owned
- 26 directly or indirectly, by or for the trust or by or for a person who is a grantor
- 27 of the trust;

- 1 (k) A corporation, a partnership, or a limited partnership if the same persons own:
- 2 1. More than fifty percent (50%) in value of the outstanding stock of the
- 3 corporation; and
- 4 2. More than fifty percent (50%) of the capital interest, or the profits
- 5 interest, in the partnership or limited partnership;
- 6 (l) A corporation and a limited liability company if the same persons own:
- 7 1. More than fifty percent (50%) in value of the outstanding stock of the
- 8 corporation; and
- 9 2. More than fifty percent (50%) of the capital interest or the profits in the
- 10 limited liability company;
- 11 (m) A partnership or limited partnership and a limited liability company if the
- 12 same persons own:
- 13 1. More than fifty percent (50%) of the capital interest or profits in the
- 14 partnership or limited partnership; and
- 15 2. More than fifty percent (50%) of the capital interest or the profits in the
- 16 limited liability company;
- 17 (n) An S corporation and another S corporation if the same persons own more
- 18 than fifty percent (50%) in value of the outstanding stock of each corporation;
- 19 S corporation designation being the same as that designation under the
- 20 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;
- 21 (o) An S corporation and a C corporation, if the same persons own more than
- 22 fifty percent (50%) in value of the outstanding stock of each corporation; S
- 23 and C corporation designations being the same as those designations under the
- 24 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended; or
- 25 (p) Two (2) or more limited liability companies, if the same persons own more
- 26 than fifty percent (50%) of the capital interest or are entitled to more than fifty
- 27 percent (50%) of the capital profits in the limited liability companies;

- 1 (3) "Agribusiness" means the processing of raw agricultural products, including but not
2 limited to timber and industrial hemp, or the performance of value-added functions
3 with regard to raw agricultural products;
- 4 (4) "Alternative fuel production" means a Kentucky operation that primarily produces
5 alternative transportation fuels for sale. The alternative fuel production may
6 produce electricity as a by-product if the primary function of the operations remains
7 the production and sale of alternative transportation fuels;
- 8 (5) "Alternative transportation fuels" has the same meaning as in KRS 152.715;
- 9 (6) "Approved company" means an eligible company that has received final approval
10 to receive incentives under this subchapter;
- 11 (7) "Approved costs" means the amount of eligible costs approved by the authority at
12 final approval;
- 13 (8) "Authority" means the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority
14 established by KRS 154.20-010;
- 15 (9) "Biomass resources" has the same meaning as in KRS 152.715;
- 16 (10) "Capital lease" means a lease classified as a capital lease by the Statement of
17 Financial Accounting Standards No. 13, Accounting for Leases, issued by the
18 Financial Accounting Standards Board, November 1976, as amended;
- 19 (11) "Carbon dioxide or hydrogen transmission pipeline" means the in-state portion of a
20 pipeline, including appurtenant facilities, property rights, and easements, that is
21 used exclusively for the purpose of transporting carbon dioxide or hydrogen to the
22 point of sale, storage, or other carbon or hydrogen management applications;
- 23 (12) "Coal severing and processing" means activities resulting in the eligible company
24 being subject to the tax imposed by KRS Chapter 143;
- 25 (13) "Commonwealth" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- 26 (14) "Confirmed approved costs" means:
27 (a) For owned economic development projects, the documented eligible costs

1 incurred on or before the activation date; or

2 (b) For leased economic development projects:

3 1. The documented eligible costs incurred on or before the activation date;

4 and

5 2. Estimated rent to be incurred by the approved company throughout the
6 term of the tax incentive agreement.

7 For both owned and leased economic development projects, "confirmed approved
8 costs" may be less than approved costs, but shall not be more than approved costs;

9 (15) "Department" means the Department of Revenue;

10 (16) "Economic development project" means:

11 (a) The acquisition, leasing, or construction of a new facility;

12 (b) The acquisition, leasing, rehabilitation, or expansion of an existing facility; or

13 (c) The installation and equipping of a facility;

14 by an eligible company. "Economic development project" does not include any
15 economic development project that will result in the replacement of facilities
16 existing in the Commonwealth, except as provided in KRS 154.32-060;

17 (17) (a) "Eligible company" means any corporation, limited liability company,
18 partnership, limited partnership, sole proprietorship, business trust, or any
19 other entity with a proposed economic development project that is engaged in
20 or is planning to be engaged in one (1) or more of the following activities
21 within the Commonwealth:

22 1. Manufacturing;

23 2. Agribusiness;

24 3. Nonretail service or technology;

25 4. Headquarters operations, regardless of the underlying business activity
26 of the company;

27 5. Alternative fuel, gasification, energy-efficient alternative fuel, or

1 renewable energy production;

2 6. Carbon dioxide or hydrogen transmission pipeline;

3 7. Coal severing and processing;~~[-or]~~

4 8. Hospital operations; or

5 **9. Research and development.**

6 (b) "Eligible company" does not include companies where the primary activity to
7 be conducted within the Commonwealth is forestry, fishing, the provision of
8 utilities, construction, wholesale trade, retail trade, real estate, rental and
9 leasing, educational services, accommodation and food services, or public
10 administration services;

11 (18) "Eligible costs" means:

12 (a) For owned economic development projects:

13 1. Start-up costs;

14 **to furnish and equip a facility, including:**

15 **a. Office and manufacturing equipment;**

16 **b. Software;**

17 **c. Computers;**

18 **d. Fixtures; and**

19 **e. Fixed telecommunications equipment;**

20 2. Nonrecurring obligations incurred for labor and nonrecurring payments
21 to contractors, subcontractors, builders, and materialmen in connection
22 with the economic development project;

23 3. The cost of acquiring land or rights in land and any cost incidental
24 thereto, including recording fees;

25 4. The cost of contract bonds and of insurance of all kinds that may be
26 required or necessary for completion of an economic development
27 project which is not paid by a contractor or otherwise provided for;

- 1 5. All costs of architectural and engineering services, including test
2 borings, surveys, estimated plans and specifications, preliminary
3 investigations, and supervision of construction, as well as for the
4 performance of all the duties required for construction of the economic
5 development project;
- 6 6. All costs which are required to be paid under the terms of any contract
7 for the economic development project;
- 8 7. All costs incurred for construction activities, including site tests and
9 inspections; subsurface site work; excavation; removal of structures,
10 roadways, cemeteries, and other surface obstructions; filling, grading,
11 and providing drainage and storm water retention; installation of utilities
12 such as water, sewer, sewage treatment, gas, electric, communications,
13 and similar facilities; off-site construction of utility extensions to the
14 boundaries of the real estate; construction and installation of railroad
15 spurs as needed to connect the economic development project to existing
16 railways; or similar activities as the authority may determine necessary
17 for construction of the economic development project; and
- 18 8. All other costs of a nature comparable to those described above; and
- 19 (b) For leased economic development projects:
 - 20 1. Start-up costs to furnish and equip a facility, including:
 - 21 a. Office and manufacturing equipment;
 - 22 b. Software;
 - 23 c. Computers;
 - 24 d. Fixtures; and
 - 25 e. Fixed telecommunications equipment;
 - 26 2. Building/leasehold improvements; and
 - 27 3. Fifty percent (50%) of the estimated annual rent for each year of the tax

1 incentive agreement.

2 Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, for economic development
3 projects that are not in heritage~~[enhanced incentive]~~ counties, the cost of equipment
4 eligible for recovery as an eligible cost shall not exceed twenty thousand dollars
5 (\$20,000) for each new full-time job created as of the activation date;

6 (19) "Employee benefits" means payments by an approved company for its full-time
7 employees for health insurance, life insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance,
8 defined benefits, 401(k), or similar plans;

9 (20) "Energy-efficient alternative fuel production" means a Kentucky operation that
10 produces for sale energy-efficient alternative fuels;

11 (21) "Energy-efficient alternative fuels" means homogeneous fuels that:

12 (a) Are produced from processes designed to densify feedstock coal, waste coal,
13 or biomass resources; and

14 (b) Have an energy content that is greater than the feedstock coal, waste coal, or
15 biomass resource;

16 (22) ~~["Enhanced incentive counties" means counties certified by the authority pursuant
17 to KRS 154.32-050;~~

18 ~~(23) ["Final approval" means the action taken by the authority authorizing the eligible
19 company to receive incentives under this subchapter;~~

20 (23)~~(24)~~ (a) "Full-time job" means a job held by a person who:

21 1. Is required to work a minimum of thirty-five (35) hours per week; and

22 2. a. Is subject to the Kentucky individual income tax imposed by KRS
23 141.020; or

24 b. Works remotely away from the economic development project if
25 the job meets all of the following conditions:

26 i. Is held by a Kentucky resident;

27 ii. Was created as a result of the economic development project;

1 and

2 iii. The payroll of this job is expensed to the economic
3 development project.

4 (b) "Full-time job" does not include a job held by a resident of any state with a
5 reciprocal agreement between the Commonwealth and the other state as
6 described in KRS 141.070;

7 ~~(24)~~~~(25)~~ "Gasification process" means a process that converts any carbon-containing
8 material into a synthesis gas composed primarily of carbon monoxide and
9 hydrogen;

10 ~~(25)~~~~(26)~~ "Gasification production" means a Kentucky operation that primarily
11 produces for sale:

12 (a) Alternative transportation fuels;

13 (b) Synthetic natural gas;

14 (c) Chemicals;

15 (d) Chemical feedstocks; or

16 (e) Liquid fuels;

17 from coal, waste coal, coal-processing waste, or biomass resources, through a
18 gasification process. The gasification production may produce electricity as a by-
19 product if the primary function of the operations remains the production and sale of
20 alternative transportation fuels, synthetic natural gas, chemicals, chemical
21 feedstocks, or liquid fuels;

22 ~~(26)~~~~(27)~~ "Headquarters" means the principal office where the principal executives of
23 the entity are located and from which other personnel, branches, affiliates, offices,
24 or entities are controlled;

25 ~~(27)~~~~(28)~~ **"Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking**
26 **determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores greater than or equal**
27 **to ninety-seven (97);**

- 1 **(28)** "Hospital" means a facility licensed by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services
 2 under KRS Chapter 216B for the operation of a hospital and the basic services
 3 provided by a hospital;
- 4 (29) "Incentives" means the incentives available under this subchapter, as listed in KRS
 5 154.32-020(3);
- 6 (30) "Job target" means the annual average number of new full-time jobs that the
 7 approved company commits to create and maintain at the economic development
 8 project, which shall not be less than ten (10) new full-time jobs;
- 9 (31) "Kentucky gross receipts" has the same meaning as in KRS 141.0401;
- 10 (32) "Kentucky gross profits" has the same meaning as in KRS 141.0401;
- 11 (33) "Lease agreement":
- 12 **(a)** Means an agreement between:
- 13 **1.** An approved company and an unrelated entity conveying the right to use
 14 a facility, the terms of which reflect an arms' length transaction, **or**
- 15 **2. An approved company and a related entity where the facility to be**
 16 **occupied by the approved company was conveyed by an unrelated**
 17 **entity after the approved company received preliminary approval;**
 18 **and**["Lease agreement"]
- 19 **(b)** Does not include a capital lease;
- 20 (34) "Leased project" means an economic development project site occupied by an
 21 approved company pursuant to a lease agreement;
- 22 (35) "Manufacturing" means any activity involving:
- 23 (a) Processing, assembling, or production of any property, including the
 24 processing resulting in a change in the conditions of the property and any
 25 activity related to the processing, assembling, or production of property,
 26 together with the storage, warehousing, distribution, and related office
 27 facilities; or

- 1 (b) Production of vital medications, personal protective equipment, or equipment
2 necessary to produce personal protective equipment;
- 3 (36) (a) "Nonretail service or technology" means any activity where service or
4 technology is provided predominantly outside the Commonwealth and
5 designed to serve a multistate, national, or international market.
- 6 (b) "Nonretail service or technology" includes but is not limited to call centers,
7 centralized administrative or processing centers, telephone or Internet sales
8 order or processing centers, distribution or fulfillment centers, data processing
9 centers, research and development facilities, and other similar activities;
- 10 (37) "Owned project" means an economic development project owned in fee simple by
11 the approved company or an affiliate, or possessed by the approved company or an
12 affiliate pursuant to a capital lease;
- 13 (38) "Personal protective equipment" means protective clothing, helmets, gloves, face
14 shields, goggles, face masks, respirators, and other equipment designed to protect
15 the user from injury or the spread of infection or illness;
- 16 (39) "Preliminary approval" means the action taken by the authority preliminarily
17 approving an eligible company for incentives under this subchapter;
- 18 (40) "Renewable energy production" means a Kentucky operation that utilizes wind
19 power, biomass resources, landfill methane gas, hydropower, solar power, or other
20 similar renewable resources to generate electricity for sale to unrelated entities;
- 21 (41) "Rent" means the actual annual rent or fee paid by an approved company under a
22 lease agreement;
- 23 (42) "Start-up costs" means nonrecurring costs incurred to furnish and equip a facility
24 for an economic development project, including costs incurred for:
- 25 (a) Computers, furnishings, office equipment, manufacturing equipment, and
26 fixtures;
- 27 (b) The relocation of out-of-state equipment; and

- 1 (c) Cost of fixed telecommunications equipment;
 2 as certified to the authority in accordance with KRS 154.32-030;
- 3 (43) "Synthetic natural gas" means the same thing as in KRS 152.715;
- 4 (44) "Tax incentive agreement" means the agreement entered into pursuant to KRS
 5 154.32-040 between the authority and an approved company;
- 6 (45) "Term," **subject to Section 16 of this Act,** means the period of time for which a tax
 7 incentive agreement may be in effect, which shall not exceed fifteen (15) years for
 8 an economic development project located in **a heritage**~~[an enhanced incentive]~~
 9 county, or ten (10) years for an economic development project not located in any
 10 other county;
- 11 (46) "Vital medications" means any drug or biologic used to prevent or treat a serious
 12 life-threatening disease or medical condition for which there is no other available
 13 source with sufficient supply of that drug or biologic or alternative drug or biologic;
- 14 (47) "Wage" means the per hour earnings of a full-time employee, including wages, tips,
 15 overtime, bonuses, and commissions, as reflected on the employee's federal form
 16 W-2 wage and tax statement, but excludes employee benefits; and
- 17 (48) "Wage target" means the average total hourly compensation amount, including the
 18 minimum wage and employee benefits, that the approved company commits to
 19 meet for all new full-time jobs created and maintained as a result of the economic
 20 development project, which shall not be less than:
- 21 (a) **Two hundred fifty percent (250%)**~~[One hundred twenty five percent (125%)]~~
 22 of the federal minimum wage in **heritage**~~[enhanced incentive]~~ counties; or
- 23 (b) **Three hundred fifty percent (350%)**~~[One hundred fifty percent (150%)]~~ of
 24 the federal minimum wage in **any**~~[all]~~ other counties.
- 25 ➔Section 14. KRS 154.32-020 is amended to read as follows:
- 26 (1) The purposes of this subchapter are:
- 27 (a) To provide incentives for eligible companies and to encourage the location or

1 expansion of manufacturing facilities, agribusiness operations, nonretail
 2 service or technology facilities, headquarters operations, alternative fuel
 3 production facilities, gasification production facilities, energy-efficient
 4 alternative fuel production facilities, renewable energy production facilities,
 5 carbon dioxide or hydrogen transmission pipelines, coal severing and
 6 processing, and hospital operations in the Commonwealth to advance the
 7 public purposes of:

- 8 1. Creation of new jobs that, but for the incentives offered by the authority,
 9 would not exist within the Commonwealth;
 - 10 2. Creation of new sources of tax revenues for the support of public
 11 services provided by the Commonwealth;
 - 12 3. Improvement in the quality of life for Kentucky citizens through the
 13 creation of sustainable jobs with higher salaries; and
 - 14 4. Providing an economic stimulus to bolster in-state production of vital
 15 medications and personal protective equipment; and
- 16 (b) To provide **balanced**~~[enhanced]~~ incentives for companies that locate in
 17 **heritage**~~[enhanced—incentive]~~ counties in recognition of the depressed
 18 economic conditions in those counties and the increased need for the growth
 19 and development caused by the depressed economic conditions.
- 20 (2) To qualify for the incentives provided by subsection (3) of this section, an approved
 21 company shall:
- 22 (a) Incur eligible costs of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000);
 - 23 (b) Create at least ten (10) new full-time jobs and maintain an annual average
 24 number of at least ten (10) new full-time jobs; and
 - 25 (c) 1. Pay at least ninety percent (90%) of all new full-time employees whose
 26 jobs were created as a result of the economic development project a
 27 minimum wage of at least **two hundred fifty percent (250%)**~~[one~~

1 ~~hundred twenty five percent (125%)~~ of the federal minimum wage in
 2 heritage~~[enhanced incentive]~~ counties, and **three hundred fifty percent**
 3 **(350%)**~~[one hundred fifty percent (150%)]~~ of the federal minimum wage
 4 in **any** other counties throughout the term of the economic development
 5 project; and

6 2. Provide employee benefits for all new full-time jobs equal to at least
 7 fifteen percent (15%) of the minimum wage requirement established by
 8 subparagraph 1. of this paragraph. If the eligible company does not
 9 provide employee benefits equal to at least fifteen percent (15%) of the
 10 minimum wage requirement established by subparagraph 1. of this
 11 paragraph, the eligible company may still qualify for incentives if it
 12 provides the full-time employees hired as a result of the economic
 13 development project total hourly compensation equal to or greater than
 14 one hundred fifteen percent (115%) of the minimum wage requirement
 15 established in subparagraph 1. of this paragraph through increased
 16 hourly wages combined with employee benefits; or

17 (d) Produce vital medications, personal protective equipment, or equipment
 18 necessary to produce personal protective equipment.

19 (3) **(a)** The incentives available under this subchapter are as follows:

20 ~~1. (a)~~ Tax credits of up to one hundred percent (100%) of the Kentucky
 21 income tax imposed under KRS 141.020 or 141.040 and the limited
 22 liability entity tax imposed under KRS 141.0401 on the income,
 23 Kentucky gross profits, or Kentucky gross receipts of the approved
 24 company generated by or arising from the economic development
 25 project, as set forth in KRS 141.415 and 154.32-070;

26 ~~2. (b)~~ Authorization for the approved company to impose a wage
 27 assessment against the gross wages of each new employee subject to the

1 Kentucky income tax as provided in KRS 154.32-090; and
 2 ~~3.(e)}~~ *An approved company receiving preliminary approval after July*
 3 *1, 2026, may receive, in addition to the inducements provided under*
 4 *subparagraphs 1. and 2. of this paragraph, an income tax credit as*
 5 *provided under Section 17 of this Act.*

6 **(b)** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, for any economic
 7 development project with an eligible investment of more than two hundred
 8 million dollars (\$200,000,000), the authority may authorize approval to the
 9 economic development project based upon terms and incentives applicable to
 10 economic development project locating in *a heritage*~~[an enhanced incentive]~~
 11 county.

12 (4) The General Assembly hereby finds and declares that the authority granted in this
 13 subchapter and the purposes accomplished hereby are proper governmental and
 14 public purposes for which public moneys may be expended, and that the
 15 inducement of the location of economic development projects within the
 16 Commonwealth is of paramount importance to the economic well-being of the
 17 Commonwealth.

18 ➔Section 15. KRS 154.32-030 is amended to read as follows:

19 (1) The application, approval, and review process under this subchapter shall be as
 20 follows:

21 (a) An eligible company with a proposed economic development project may
 22 submit an application to the authority. The application shall include the
 23 information required by subsection (3) of this section;

24 (b) Upon review of the application and any additional information submitted, the
 25 authority may, by resolution, give preliminary approval to an eligible
 26 company and authorize the negotiation and execution of a memorandum of
 27 agreement. The memorandum of agreement shall establish a preliminary job

1 target, minimum wage target, including employee benefits, and maximum
2 total approved cost for the economic development project, and shall only
3 allow the recovery of eligible costs incurred ninety (90) days prior to receipt
4 ~~of~~ ~~after~~ preliminary approval. Upon preliminary approval, the preliminarily
5 approved company may undertake the project in accordance with the
6 memorandum of agreement, and may begin to hire employees that may be
7 counted toward the minimum full-time job requirements established by the
8 memorandum of agreement;

9 (c) After preliminary approval but before final approval, the authority shall post
10 the preliminarily approved company's name, the location of the economic
11 development project, and the incentives that have been preliminarily approved
12 on the Cabinet for Economic Development's website ~~[Web site]~~;

13 (d) The preliminarily approved company shall submit any documentation
14 required by the authority upon request of the authority;

15 (e) To obtain final approval, the preliminarily approved company shall submit:

- 16 1. Documentation required by the authority to confirm that the
17 requirements established by the memorandum of agreement have been
18 met; and
- 19 2. Documentation of official action taken by a local governmental entity
20 detailing the manner and level of local contribution, if applicable.

21 Upon review and confirmation of the documentation, the authority may, by
22 resolution, give final approval to the preliminarily approved company, and
23 authorize the execution of a tax incentive agreement between the authority
24 and the approved company pursuant to KRS 154.32-040. The tax incentive
25 agreement shall establish an activation date, which shall be within two (2)
26 years of final approval;

27 (f) 1. On or before the activation date, the approved company shall notify the

- 1 authority of its intention to activate the tax incentive agreement. The
2 approved company shall submit:
- 3 a. Documentation that it has met the minimum full-time job,
4 minimum investment, and minimum wage and employee benefits
5 requirements established by KRS 154.32-020 as of the date of
6 activation; and
- 7 b. The confirmed approved costs incurred as of the date of activation,
8 which shall be the total eligible costs that may be recovered by the
9 approved company.
- 10 2. If the approved company fails to meet any of the minimum investment,
11 full-time job, or wage requirements, including employee benefits,
12 established by KRS 154.32-020 on the activation date, the tax incentive
13 agreement shall be canceled and the approved company shall not be
14 eligible for incentives.
- 15 3. If an approved company meets the minimum investment, full-time job,
16 and wage requirements, including employee benefits, established by
17 KRS 154.32-020, but fails to meet higher job targets and minimum
18 wage targets, including employee benefits, established in the tax
19 incentive agreement, then the provisions of subsection (4) of this section
20 shall apply in determining the incentives for which the approved
21 company qualifies.
- 22 4. Upon activation of a tax incentive agreement, the authority shall notify
23 the department, and shall provide the department with the information
24 necessary to monitor and track the incentives taken by the approved
25 company; and
- 26 (g) 1. The authority shall monitor the tax incentive agreement at least
27 annually, and the approved company shall submit all documentation

- 1 necessary for the authority to monitor the agreement.
- 2 2. The authority shall, based on the documentation provided, confirm that
- 3 the approved company is in continued compliance with the provisions of
- 4 the tax incentive agreement and, therefore, eligible for incentives.
- 5 3. Upon annual review, if the approved company meets the minimum job
- 6 and wage requirements, including employee benefits, established by
- 7 KRS 154.32-020, but fails to meet the job target and minimum wage
- 8 target, including employee benefits, established in the tax incentive
- 9 agreement, then the provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall
- 10 apply in determining the incentives for which the approved company
- 11 qualifies in any year.
- 12 4. Upon final approval, the authority shall notify the department that an
- 13 approved company is eligible for incentives and shall provide the
- 14 department with the information necessary to monitor the use of
- 15 incentives by the approved company. If, at any time during the term of
- 16 the tax incentive agreement, an approved company becomes ineligible
- 17 for incentives, the authority shall notify the department, and the
- 18 department shall discontinue the availability of incentives for the
- 19 approved company.
- 20 (2) (a) The authority may establish procedures and standards for the review and
- 21 approval of eligible companies and their economic development projects
- 22 through the promulgation of administrative regulations in accordance with
- 23 KRS Chapter 13A.
- 24 (b) Standards to be used by the authority in reviewing and approving an eligible
- 25 company and its economic development project shall include but not be
- 26 limited to:
- 27 1. The creditworthiness of the eligible company;

- 1 2. The proposed capital investment to be made;
- 2 3. The number of new full-time jobs to be provided for the residents of the
- 3 Commonwealth and the wages to be paid;
- 4 4. Support of the local community; and
- 5 5. The likelihood of the economic success of the economic development
- 6 project.
- 7 (3) The application shall include but not be limited to:
 - 8 (a) The name of the applicant and identification of any affiliates of the applicant
 - 9 who will have some relation to the economic development project;
 - 10 (b) A description of the economic development project, including its location, the
 - 11 total investment in the economic development project, and total proposed
 - 12 eligible costs;
 - 13 (c) The projected number of new full-time jobs to be created as a result of the
 - 14 economic development project and identification of any affiliates who may
 - 15 employ persons hired to fill those jobs;
 - 16 (d) The number of existing full-time jobs at the site of the economic development
 - 17 project on the date of the application and a description and breakdown of the
 - 18 relevant affiliated employers;
 - 19 (e) Proposed wage and employee benefit amounts for the new full-time jobs to be
 - 20 created as a result of the proposed economic development project;
 - 21 (f) For proposed economic development projects new to the Commonwealth,
 - 22 certification by the eligible company that the economic development project
 - 23 could reasonably and efficiently locate outside of the Commonwealth and,
 - 24 without the incentives offered by the authority, the eligible company would
 - 25 likely locate outside the Commonwealth;
 - 26 (g) For eligible companies with an existing location in the Commonwealth
 - 27 considering an expansion, certification that the tax incentives are necessary

- 1 for the expansion to occur;
- 2 (h) A letter of support from a local governmental entity in the city or county
- 3 where the economic development project will be located; and
- 4 (i) Any other information the authority may require.
- 5 (4) (a) An approved company that meets the minimum job and wage requirements,
- 6 including employee benefits established by KRS 154.32-020, but fails to meet
- 7 the job target and minimum wage target, including employee benefits
- 8 established by the tax incentive agreement, shall be eligible to receive the
- 9 incentives authorized by the tax incentive agreement as provided in this
- 10 subsection.
- 11 (b) If, upon activation or annual review, an approved company achieves at least
- 12 ninety percent (90%) of both the job target and minimum wage target,
- 13 including employee benefits established by the tax incentive agreement, and
- 14 no other default has occurred, then the approved company shall be eligible to
- 15 receive full incentives as provided in the tax incentive agreement.
- 16 (c) If, upon activation or annual review, an approved company achieves less than
- 17 ninety percent (90%) of either the job target or minimum wage target,
- 18 including employee benefits established in the tax incentive agreement, and
- 19 no other default has occurred, then the incentives available to the approved
- 20 company for the following year shall be reduced by a percentage equal to the
- 21 percentage representing the difference between the job target or minimum
- 22 wage target, including employee benefits established in the tax incentive
- 23 agreement, and the actual average number of full-time jobs or average wage,
- 24 including employee benefits, paid. If both the number of actual average full-
- 25 time jobs and average wages paid, including employee benefits, are below
- 26 ninety percent (90%) of the targets on the same measurement date, then the
- 27 greater percentage reduction of the two (2) shall be applied rather than

1 reducing the incentives available by the sum of the two (2).

2 (d) If, upon annual review, either the actual number of new full-time jobs or the
3 average wages paid for those jobs, including employee benefits, is less than
4 the minimum requirements established by KRS 154.32-020, then the
5 economic development project may be suspended automatically or, with
6 approval of the authority, terminated.

7 ➔Section 16. KRS 154.32-040 is amended to read as follows:

8 The authority, upon final approval of a company, may enter into a tax incentive
9 agreement with the approved company. The terms and conditions of the tax incentive
10 agreement shall be negotiated between the authority and the approved company. The
11 terms of the tax incentive agreement shall include but not be limited to the following
12 provisions:

13 (1) The maximum approved costs that may be recovered over the term of the tax
14 incentive agreement and the annual maximum for approved costs;

15 (2) That the approved company shall provide the authority with all documentation
16 requested in a manner acceptable to the authority;

17 (3) Identification of the contribution of the local government to the economic
18 development project, if any;

19 (4) The activation date, which shall be within two (2) years of final approval;

20 (5) That the approved company shall implement the activation date by notifying the
21 authority;

22 (6) That the approved company shall provide documentation satisfactory to the
23 authority within the timeframes required by the authority that it has met the
24 minimum employment, minimum investment, and minimum wage requirements,
25 including employee benefits, established by KRS 154.32-020;

26 (7) That failure of the approved company to meet any of the minimum job, minimum
27 investment, or minimum wage requirements, including employee benefits,

1 established by KRS 154.32-020, on the activation date shall result in cancellation of
2 the tax incentive agreement;

3 (8) The term of the agreement, which shall not exceed fifteen (15) years for an
4 economic development project located in a heritage~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county,
5 or ten (10) years for an economic development project located in any
6 other~~[another]~~ county;

7 (9) Notwithstanding subsection (8) of this section, an approved company that
8 received preliminary approval of an economic development project prior to
9 January 1, 2023, in which wage assessments were provided pursuant to Section
10 18 of this Act may request a one (1) time extension for up to five (5) years under
11 the following conditions:

12 (a) At the time the extension is granted, the approved company has received less
13 than seventy-five percent (75%) of the incentives awarded under the tax
14 incentive agreement; and

15 (b) The extension does not amend any provision of the tax incentive agreement
16 impacting the scope of the project or the maximum amount of incentives
17 awarded under the tax incentive agreement;

18 (10) That, if confirmed approved costs are less than the maximum approved costs
19 included in the tax incentive agreement, the confirmed approved costs shall become
20 the maximum amount that may be recovered by the approved company;

21 (11)~~[(10)]~~ If the economic development project is a leased project, that future rent
22 payments that are included in eligible costs shall be included as confirmed approved
23 costs upon submission of a valid lease agreement executed after preliminary
24 approval;

25 (12)~~[(11)]~~ Establishment of a job target and minimum wage target, including employee
26 benefits;

27 (13)~~[(12)]~~ A requirement that the job target and minimum wage target, including

1 employee benefits, be measured:

2 (a) On the activation date, against the actual new full-time jobs created and the
3 average wages, including employee benefits, paid for those jobs; and

4 (b) Annually during each year of the agreement, against the annual average of the
5 new full-time jobs and the average wages paid for those jobs, including
6 employee benefits;

7 ~~(14)~~~~(13)~~ A provision requiring the approved company to notify the authority
8 immediately if the approved company sells or otherwise transfers or disposes of the
9 land on which an economic development project is located, if a lease relating to the
10 economic development project is terminated or lapses, or if the approved company
11 ceases or fundamentally alters operations at the economic development project;

12 ~~(15)~~~~(14)~~ A provision detailing the reductions in incentives that will occur pursuant to
13 KRS 154.32-030(4) if an approved company fails to meet its job target or minimum
14 wage target, including employee benefits;

15 ~~(16)~~~~(15)~~ That the agreement may be assigned by the approved company upon the
16 adoption of a resolution by the authority to that effect;

17 ~~(17)~~~~(16)~~ That the approved company shall make available to the authority all of its
18 records pertaining to the economic development project, including but not limited
19 to payroll records, records relating to eligible costs, and any other records
20 pertaining to the economic development project that the authority may require;

21 ~~(18)~~~~(17)~~ That the authority may share information with the department for the purposes
22 of monitoring and enforcing the terms of the tax incentive agreement;

23 ~~(19)~~~~(18)~~ That, if an approved company fails to comply with its obligations under the
24 tax incentive agreement other than the jobs target or minimum wage target, the
25 authority may take any or all of the following actions:

26 (a) Suspend the incentives available to the approved company;

27 (b) Terminate the incentives available to the approved company; or

1 (c) Pursue any other remedy set forth in the tax incentive agreement or to which it
2 may be entitled by law; and

3 ~~(20)~~~~[(19)]~~ Any other provisions not inconsistent with this subchapter and determined to
4 be necessary or appropriate by the parties to the tax incentive agreement.

5 ➔Section 17. KRS 154.32-070 is amended to read as follows:

6 (1) For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009, an approved company may
7 be eligible for a credit of up to one hundred percent (100%) of the Kentucky
8 income tax imposed under KRS 141.020 or 141.040, and the limited liability entity
9 tax imposed under KRS 141.0401, that would otherwise be owed by the approved
10 company to the Commonwealth for the approved company's taxable year, on the
11 income, Kentucky gross profits, or Kentucky gross receipts of the approved
12 company generated by or arising from the economic development project.

13 (2) The credit allowed the approved company shall be applied against both the income
14 tax imposed by KRS 141.020 or 141.040, and the limited liability entity tax
15 imposed by KRS 141.0401, with credit ordering as provided in KRS 141.0205, for
16 the taxable year for which the tax return of the approved company is filed, subject
17 to the annual maximum set forth in the tax incentive agreement. Any credit not used
18 in the year in which it was first available may be carried forward to subsequent
19 years, provided that no credit may be carried forward beyond the term of the tax
20 incentive agreement.

21 (3) The approved company shall not be required to pay estimated tax payments under
22 KRS 141.044 on the Kentucky taxable income, Kentucky gross receipts, or
23 Kentucky gross profits generated by or arising from the eligible project.

24 (4) The credit provided by this section shall be determined as provided in KRS
25 141.415.

26 (5) The amount of incentives allowed under subsections (1) to (4) of this section~~in~~
27 ~~any year~~ shall not exceed the lesser of the tax liability of the approved company

1 related to the economic development project for that year or the annual maximum
 2 approved costs set forth in the tax incentive agreement *in any year*. The incentives
 3 shall be allowed for each fiscal year of the approved company during the term of
 4 the tax incentive agreement for which a tax return is filed by the approved
 5 company.

6 **(6) (a) An approved company receiving preliminary approval after July 1, 2026,**
 7 **may receive, in addition to the inducements provided under subsections (1)**
 8 **to (4) of this section, a credit as provided under Section 1 of this Act in an**
 9 **amount up to one and one-half percent (1.5%) of the wages paid to full-time**
 10 **employees who are subject to the tax imposed by KRS 141.020 and**
 11 **maintained at an economic development project located in a heritage**
 12 **county.**

13 **(b) The cumulative credits awarded:**

14 **1. To an approved company under this subsection for any year of the**
 15 **agreement shall not exceed the annual maximum approved costs of**
 16 **the economic development project as provided in the tax incentive**
 17 **agreement; and**

18 **2. To all approved companies under this subsection and subsection (3) of**
 19 **Section 10 of this Act shall not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000)**
 20 **per taxable year.**

21 ➔Section 18. KRS 154.32-090 is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) An approved company or, with the authority's consent, an affiliate of an approved
 23 company may impose wage assessments against employees as provided in this
 24 section if a wage assessment is included in the incentives awarded to the approved
 25 company in the tax incentive agreement. The level of wage assessment shall be
 26 negotiated as part of the tax incentive agreement.

27 (2) If an economic development project is located in **a heritage**~~[an enhanced incentive]~~

1 county, the approved company or, with the authority's consent, an affiliate of the
2 approved company may require that each employee subject to the tax imposed by
3 KRS 141.020, whose job is determined by the authority to be created as a result of
4 the economic development project, as a condition of employment, agree to an
5 assessment of up to one hundred percent (100%) of the individual income tax rate
6 imposed by KRS 141.020, and that assessment shall operate as the
7 Commonwealth's wage assessment. Although not required for an economic
8 development project located in a heritage~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county, a local
9 jurisdiction may agree to forgo all or a portion of its local occupational license fee
10 as a local wage assessment.

11 (3) (a) If the economic development project is not located in a heritage~~[an enhanced
12 incentive]~~ county, and is located in a local jurisdiction where:

- 13 1. No local occupational license fee is imposed;
- 14 2. a. A local occupational license fee greater than or equal to twenty
15 percent (20%) of the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is
16 imposed; and
17 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo, as the local wage
18 assessment, at least twenty percent (20%) of the individual income
19 tax rate imposed by KRS 141.020 via credits against the local
20 occupational license fee for the affected employees; or
- 21 3. a. A local occupational license fee less than twenty percent (20%) of
22 the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is imposed; and
23 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo the total amount of the local
24 occupational license fee as the local wage assessment; then

25 (b) An approved company or, with the authority's consent, an affiliate of an
26 approved company may require that each employee subject to tax imposed by
27 KRS 141.020, whose job is determined by the authority to be created as a

1 result of the economic development project, as a condition of employment,
2 agree to pay an assessment of up to sixty percent (60%) of the individual
3 income tax rate imposed by KRS 141.020 and that assessment shall operate as
4 the Commonwealth's wage assessment.

5 (4) (a) If the economic development project is not located in a heritage~~[an enhanced~~
6 ~~incentive]~~ county, and is located in a local jurisdiction where:

7 1. a. A local occupational license fee greater than or equal to twenty
8 percent (20%) of the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is
9 imposed; and

10 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo an amount of the local
11 occupational license fee that is less than twenty percent (20%) of
12 the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 as the local wage
13 assessment; or

14 2. a. A local occupational license fee of lesser than twenty percent
15 (20%) of the individual income tax rate in KRS 141.020 is
16 imposed; and

17 b. The local jurisdiction agrees to forgo only a portion of the total
18 amount of the local occupational license fee as the local wage
19 assessment; then

20 (b) An approved company or, with the authority's consent, an affiliate of an
21 approved company may require that each employee subject to tax imposed by
22 KRS 141.020, whose job is determined by the authority to be created as a
23 result of the economic development project, as a condition of employment,
24 agree to pay an assessment equal to three (3) times the forgone local wage
25 assessment rate and that assessment shall operate as the Commonwealth's
26 wage assessment.

27 (5) If the project is not located in a heritage~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county, and:

- 1 (a) Is located in a local jurisdiction that does not impose a local occupational
2 license fee, the local jurisdiction shall be required to provide some alternative
3 inducement satisfactory to the authority at the local level in order for a
4 preliminarily approved company to receive final approval. However, the
5 authority may waive this requirement if there are reasonable circumstances
6 that prevent the local jurisdiction from providing a reasonable inducement; or
- 7 (b) Is located in a local jurisdiction that does impose a local occupational license
8 fee, the jurisdiction may request that the authority waive the local
9 occupational license fee requirements established by subsection (3) or (4) of
10 this section if the local jurisdiction offers alternative inducements of similar
11 value satisfactory to the authority. The authority shall review all requests for a
12 waiver, and may waive the local occupational license fee requirements and
13 instead require the local jurisdiction to provide alternative inducements of
14 similar value if the authority determines that the circumstances warrant an
15 alternative contribution by the local jurisdiction.
- 16 (6) Each employee paying the assessment shall simultaneously be entitled to a credit
17 against the Kentucky individual income tax required to be withheld under KRS
18 141.310 equal to the state portion of the assessment and shall be entitled to a credit
19 against the local occupational license tax equal to the local portion of the
20 assessment.
- 21 (7) If more than one (1) local jurisdiction imposes an occupational license fee, the local
22 jurisdiction portion of the assessment shall be prorated proportionately among the
23 taxes imposed by the local jurisdictions unless one (1) local jurisdiction agrees to
24 forgo the receipt of these taxes in an amount equal to the local jurisdiction portion
25 of the wage assessment, in which case no proration shall be made.
- 26 (8) If a full-time employee subject to state tax imposed by KRS 141.020 is already
27 employed by the approved company at a site other than the site of the economic

1 development project, that full-time employee's job shall be deemed to have been
2 created when the full-time employee is transferred to the site of the economic
3 development project if the full-time employee's existing job is filled with a new
4 full-time employee.

5 (9) If an approved company elects to impose the assessment as a condition of
6 employment, it shall be authorized to deduct the assessment from each payment of
7 wages to the employee.

8 (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Kentucky Revised Statutes, if an
9 approved company elects not to deduct the assessment from each payment of wages
10 to the employee, but rather requests a reimbursement of state tax imposed by KRS
11 141.020 or local occupational tax in the aggregate after they have been paid to the
12 state or local jurisdiction, no interest shall be paid by the state or by the local
13 jurisdiction on that reimbursement.

14 (11) No credit, or portion thereof, shall be allowed against any occupational license fee
15 imposed by or dedicated solely to the board of education in a local jurisdiction.

16 (12) An approved company imposing an assessment shall make its payroll, books, and
17 records available to the authority or the department upon request, and shall file with
18 the authority or department documentation pertaining to the assessment as the
19 authority or department may require.

20 (13) Any assessment of the wages of employees of an approved company in connection
21 with their employment at an economic development project shall permanently cease
22 at the expiration of the tax incentive agreement.

23 ➔Section 19. KRS 154.32-100 is amended to read as follows:

24 (1) (a) By October 1 of each year, the department shall certify to the authority, in the
25 form of an annual report, aggregate tax credits claimed on tax returns filed
26 during the fiscal year ending June 30 of that year and aggregate assessments
27 taken during the prior calendar year by approved companies with respect to

1 their economic development projects under this subchapter, and shall certify
2 to the authority, within ninety (90) days from the date an approved company
3 has filed its state income tax return, when an approved company has taken tax
4 credits or assessments equal to the total incentives available to the approved
5 company.

6 **(b) For the economic development credit provided under Section 1 of this Act,**
7 **the department shall report to the authority the total amount of economic**
8 **development credit awarded for each taxable year, by county, including the**
9 **following:**

10 **1. Each approved company awarded a credit; and**

11 **2. The total amount of wages paid to a full-time employee by an**
12 **approved company and included in the credit computation.**

13 **(2) On a semiannual basis, by May 1 and November 1 of each year, the cabinet shall**
14 **prepare a report of the economic development credits provided under Section 17**
15 **of this Act to be submitted to the Governor and the Legislative Research**
16 **Commission for referral to Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and**
17 **Revenue and made available on the cabinet's website. The report shall include**
18 **but not be limited to the following:**

19 **(a) A summary of the economic development credits received and relevant**
20 **statistics relating to actions taken by the cabinet, including:**

21 **1. The approved company;**

22 **2. The total amount of economic development credits awarded;**

23 **3. The number of full-time jobs created; and**

24 **4. The annual maximum approved costs of the economic development**
25 **project;**

26 **(b) The annual total of the economic development credits received; and**

27 **(c) Recommendations for legislation or policy actions needed to increase the**

1 *number of economic development projects.*

2 ➔SECTION 20. A NEW SECTION OF SUBCHAPTER 12 OF KRS CHAPTER
3 154 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

4 *(1) The cabinet shall work closely with the workforce liaison appointed by the*
5 *president of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System to:*

6 *(a) Promote jobs created in the Commonwealth as a result of economic*
7 *development incentive programs; and*

8 *(b) Provide support with the goal of recruitment and placement of system*
9 *students and graduates into new job and workforce training opportunities*
10 *as they are made available within the Commonwealth.*

11 *(2) The cabinet shall work closely with the system and involve it in policy discussions*
12 *and planning that may have an effect on community members, system staff, and*
13 *students.*

14 ➔Section 21. KRS 141.383 is amended to read as follows:

15 (1) As used in this section:

16 (a) "Above-the-line production crew" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-
17 010;

18 (b) "Approved company" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-010;

19 (c) "Below-the-line production crew" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-
20 010;

21 (d) "Continuous film production" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-010;

22 (e) "Council" means the Kentucky Film Leadership Council created in KRS
23 154.12-282;

24 (f) "Loan-out entity" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-010;

25 (g) "Qualifying expenditure" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-010;

26 (h) "Qualifying payroll expenditure" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-
27 010;

- 1 (i) "Secretary" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.61-010; and
- 2 (j) "Tax incentive agreement" has the same meaning as KRS 154.61-010.
- 3 (2) (a) There is hereby created a tax credit against the tax imposed under KRS
4 141.020 or 141.040 and 141.0401, with the ordering of credits as provided in
5 KRS 141.0205.
- 6 (b) The incentive available under paragraph (a) of this section is:
- 7 1. A refundable credit for applications approved prior to April 27, 2018;
- 8 2. A nonrefundable and nontransferable credit for applications approved on
9 or after April 27, 2018, but before January 1, 2022; and
- 10 3. A refundable credit for applications approved on or after January 1,
11 2022, if the provisions of paragraph (c) of this subsection are met.
- 12 (c) 1. The total tax incentive approved under KRS 154.61-020 shall be limited
13 to:
- 14 a. One hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) for calendar year
15 2018 and each calendar year through the calendar year 2021;
- 16 b. Seventy-five million dollars (\$75,000,000) for the calendar year
17 2022 and each calendar year thereafter; and
- 18 c. Beginning with calendar year 2024, the amount in subdivision b.
19 of this subparagraph shall be allocated accordingly:
- 20 i. Twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) shall be allocated
21 for all approved companies with a continuous film
22 production; and
- 23 ii. On the first day of April 2025, and on April 1 of each
24 calendar year thereafter, any unused balance allocated under
25 subpart i. of this subdivision for continuous film productions
26 shall be made available for all approved companies with a
27 motion picture or entertainment production.

- 1 2. To qualify for the refundable credit, all applicants shall:
- 2 a. Begin filming or production in Kentucky within six (6) months of
- 3 approval by the council; and
- 4 b. Complete filming or production in Kentucky within two (2) years
- 5 of their production start date.
- 6 (3) An approved company may receive a refundable tax credit if:
- 7 (a) The department has received notification from the council that the approved
- 8 company has satisfied all requirements of KRS 154.61-020 and 154.61-030;
- 9 and
- 10 (b) The approved company has provided a detailed cost report and sufficient
- 11 documentation to the council, which has been forwarded by the council to the
- 12 department, that:
- 13 1. The purchases of qualifying expenditures were made after the execution
- 14 of the tax incentive agreement; and
- 15 2. The approved company or loan-out entity has withheld income tax as
- 16 required by KRS 141.310 on all qualified payroll expenditures, and
- 17 remitted and certified the withheld amount to the department.
- 18 (4) Interest shall not be allowed or paid on any refundable credits provided under this
- 19 section.
- 20 (5) The department may promulgate administrative regulations under KRS Chapter
- 21 13A to administer this section.
- 22 (6) On or before September 1, 2010, and on or before each September 1 thereafter, for
- 23 the immediately preceding fiscal year, the department shall report to the council and
- 24 the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue the names of the
- 25 approved companies and the amounts of refundable income tax credit claimed.
- 26 (7) No later than September 1, 2021, and by November 1 every four (4) years
- 27 thereafter, the department and the Cabinet for Economic Development shall

1 cooperatively provide historical data related to the tax credit allowed in this section
2 and KRS 154.61-020 and 154.61-030, including data items beginning with tax
3 credits claimed for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018:

- 4 (a) The name of the taxpayer claiming the tax credit;
- 5 (b) The date that the application was approved and the date the filming or
6 production was completed;
- 7 (c) The taxable year in which the taxpayer claimed the tax credit;
- 8 (d) The total amount of the tax credit, including any amount denied, any amount
9 applied against a tax liability, any amount refunded, and any amount
10 remaining that may be claimed on a return filed in the future;
- 11 (e) Whether the taxpayer is a Kentucky-based company as defined in KRS
12 154.61-010;
- 13 (f) Whether the taxpayer films or produces a:
- 14 1. Feature-length film, television program, or industrial film;
- 15 2. National touring production of a Broadway show; or
- 16 3. Documentary;
- 17 (g) Whether the filming or production was performed:
- 18 1. Entirely in a heritage~~[an enhanced]~~ county; or
- 19 2. In whole or in part in any Kentucky county other than in a heritage~~[an~~
20 ~~enhanced-incentive]~~ county;
- 21 (h) The amount of qualifying expenditures incurred by the taxpayer;
- 22 (i) The amount of qualifying payroll expenditures paid to:
- 23 1. Resident below-the-line crew; and
- 24 2. Nonresident below-the-line production crew;
- 25 including the number of crew members in each category;
- 26 (j) The amount of qualifying payroll expenditures paid to:
- 27 1. Resident above-the-line crew; and

- 1 2. Nonresident above-the-line crew;
2 including the number of crew members in each category; and
3 (k) A brief description of the type of motion picture or entertainment production
4 project.

- 5 (8) The information required to be reported under this section shall not be considered
6 confidential taxpayer information and shall not be subject to KRS Chapter 131 or
7 any other provisions of the Kentucky Revised Statutes prohibiting disclosure or
8 reporting of information.

9 ➔Section 22. KRS 154.61-010 is amended to read as follows:

10 As used in this subchapter:

- 11 (1) "Above-the-line production crew" means employees involved with the production
12 of a motion picture or entertainment production whose salaries are negotiated prior
13 to commencement of production, such as actors, directors, producers, and writers;
14 (2) "Animated production" means a nationally distributed feature-length film created
15 with the rapid display of a sequence of images using 2-D or 3-D graphics of
16 artwork or model positions in order to create an illusion of movement;
17 (3) "Approved company" means an eligible company approved for incentives provided
18 under KRS 141.383 and 154.61-020;
19 (4) "Below-the-line production crew" means employees involved with the production
20 of a motion picture or entertainment production except above-the-line production
21 crew. "Below-the-line production crew" includes but is not limited to:
22 (a) Casting assistants;
23 (b) Costume design;
24 (c) Extras;
25 (d) Gaffers;
26 (e) Grips;
27 (f) Location managers;

- 1 (g) Production assistants;
- 2 (h) Set construction staff; and
- 3 (i) Set design staff;
- 4 (5) "Cabinet" means the Cabinet for Economic Development;
- 5 (6) "Commonwealth" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- 6 (7) "Compensation" means compensation included in adjusted gross income as defined
- 7 in KRS 141.010;
- 8 (8) "Continuous film production" means a motion picture or entertainment production
- 9 that:
- 10 (a) 1. Has a projected budget of a minimum of ten million dollars
- 11 (\$10,000,000) per calendar year for qualifying expenditures and
- 12 qualifying payroll expenditures allocated to all qualifying motion picture
- 13 or entertainment productions to be filmed or produced in Kentucky, with
- 14 a minimum of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000)
- 15 per production in Kentucky; and
- 16 2. Has a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the funds available and the
- 17 ability to raise the remaining funds necessary to complete the filming
- 18 and production, which may be verified by:
- 19 a. Bank statements or other financial documents; or
- 20 b. A fundraising plan at the request of the council;
- 21 (b) Demonstrates a distribution contract for each motion or entertainment
- 22 production;
- 23 (c) Films and produces a minimum of twelve (12) or more days per production
- 24 within the Commonwealth; and
- 25 (d) Maintains:
- 26 1. An apprenticeship program or on-the-job training program as defined in
- 27 KRS 343.010; or

- 1 2. Partners with a film studies program with an accredited institution of
2 postsecondary education located in the Commonwealth;
- 3 (9) "Council" means the Kentucky Film Leadership Council created in KRS 154.12-
4 282;
- 5 (10) "Documentary" means a production based upon factual information and not
6 subjective interjections;
- 7 (11) "Eligible company" means any person that intends to film or produce a motion
8 picture or entertainment production in the Commonwealth;
- 9 (12) "Employee" has the same meaning as in KRS 141.010, and, for purposes of this
10 subchapter, also may include the employees or independent contractors of an
11 approved company or the employees of a loan-out entity engaged by an approved
12 company if they meet the requirements of KRS 141.310;
- 13 (13) ~~["Enhanced incentive county" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;~~
- 14 ~~(14) ["Feature-length film" means a live-action or animated production that is:~~
- 15 (a) More than thirty (30) minutes in length; and
- 16 (b) Produced for distribution in theaters or via digital format, including but not
17 limited to DVD, Internet, or mobile electronic devices;
- 18 **(14) "Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking**
19 **determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores greater than or equal**
20 **to ninety-seven (97);**
- 21 (15) "Industrial film" means a business-to-business film that may be viewed by the
22 public, including but not limited to videos used for training or for viewing at a trade
23 show;
- 24 (16) "Kentucky-based company" has the same meaning as in KRS 164.6011;
- 25 (17) "Loan-out entity" means a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or
26 other entity through which an artist or other person is loaned out to perform services
27 for the approved company. A loan-out entity shall be registered and in good

1 standing with the Kentucky Secretary of State. Notwithstanding the business
2 organization, the loan-out entity and all employees of and other persons performing
3 services for the loan-out entity shall be subject to all applicable provisions of the
4 Kentucky personal income tax and any applicable payroll or other tax provisions;

5 (18) (a) "Motion picture or entertainment production" means:

- 6 1. The following if filmed in whole or in part, or produced in whole or in
7 part, in the Commonwealth:
 - 8 a. A feature-length film;
 - 9 b. A television program;
 - 10 c. An industrial film; or
 - 11 d. A documentary; or
- 12 2. A national touring production of a Broadway show produced in
13 Kentucky.

14 (b) "Motion picture or entertainment production" does not include the filming or
15 production of obscene material or television coverage of news or athletic
16 events;

17 (19) "Obscene" has the same meaning as in KRS 531.010;

18 (20) "Person" has the same meaning as in KRS 141.010;

19 (21) (a) "Qualifying expenditure" means expenditures made in the Commonwealth for
20 the following if directly used in or for a motion picture or entertainment
21 production:

- 22 1. The production script and synopsis;
- 23 2. Set construction and operations, wardrobe, accessories, and related
24 services;
- 25 3. Lease or rental of real property in Kentucky as a set location;
- 26 4. Photography, sound synchronization, lighting, and related services;
- 27 5. Editing and related services;

- 1 6. Rental of facilities and equipment;
- 2 7. Vehicle leases;
- 3 8. Food; and
- 4 9. Accommodations.

5 (b) "Qualifying expenditure" does not include Kentucky sales and use tax paid by
6 the approved company on the qualifying expenditure;

7 (22) "Qualifying payroll expenditure" means compensation paid to above-the-line crew
8 and below-the line crew while working on a motion picture or entertainment
9 production in the Commonwealth if the compensation is for services performed in
10 the Commonwealth;

11 (23) "Resident" has the same meaning as in KRS 141.010;

12 (24) "Secretary" means the secretary of the Cabinet for Economic Development;

13 (25) "Tax incentive agreement" means the agreement entered into pursuant to KRS
14 154.61-030 between the council and the approved company; and

15 (26) "Television program" means any live-action or animated production or
16 documentary, including but not limited to:

- 17 (a) An episodic series;
- 18 (b) A miniseries;
- 19 (c) A television movie; or
- 20 (d) A television pilot;

21 that is produced for distribution on television via broadcast, cable, or any digital
22 format, including but not limited to cable, satellite, internet, or mobile electronic
23 devices.

24 ➔Section 23. KRS 154.61-020 is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The purposes of KRS 141.383 and this subchapter are to encourage:

- 26 (a) The film and entertainment industry to choose locations in the
27 Commonwealth for the filming and production of motion picture or

- 1 entertainment productions;
- 2 (b) The development of a film and entertainment industry in Kentucky;
- 3 (c) Increased employment opportunities for the citizens of the Commonwealth
4 within the film and entertainment industry; and
- 5 (d) The development of a production and postproduction infrastructure in the
6 Commonwealth for film production and touring Broadway show production
7 facilities containing state-of-the-art technologies.
- 8 (2) The council, together with the Department of Revenue, shall administer the tax
9 credit established by KRS 141.383, this section, and KRS 154.61-030.
- 10 (3) To qualify for the tax incentive provided in subsection (5) of this section, the
11 following requirements shall be met:
- 12 (a) For an approved company that is also a Kentucky-based company that:
- 13 1. Films or produces a feature-length film, television program, or industrial
14 film in whole or in part in the Commonwealth, the minimum combined
15 total of qualifying expenditures and qualifying payroll expenditures
16 shall be one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000);
- 17 2. Produces a national touring production of a Broadway show in whole or
18 in part in the Commonwealth, the minimum combined total of
19 qualifying expenditures and qualifying payroll expenditures shall be
20 twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000); or
- 21 3. Films or produces a documentary in whole or in part in the
22 Commonwealth, the minimum combined total of qualifying
23 expenditures and qualifying payroll expenditures shall be ten thousand
24 dollars (\$10,000); and
- 25 (b) For an approved company that is not a Kentucky-based company that:
- 26 1. Films or produces a feature-length film, television program, or industrial
27 film in whole or in part in the Commonwealth, the minimum combined

- 1 total of qualifying expenditures and qualifying payroll expenditures
2 shall be two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000); or
- 3 2. Films or produces a documentary in whole or in part in the
4 Commonwealth or that produces a national touring production of a
5 Broadway show, the minimum combined total of qualifying
6 expenditures and qualifying payroll expenditures shall be twenty
7 thousand dollars (\$20,000).
- 8 (4) (a) Beginning on January 1, 2022, the total tax incentive approved under KRS
9 141.383 and this subchapter shall be limited to seventy-five million dollars
10 (\$75,000,000) for calendar year 2022 and each calendar year thereafter.
- 11 (b) Beginning with calendar year 2024:
- 12 1. Twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) shall be allocated for all
13 approved companies with a continuous film production; and
- 14 2. On the first day of July of each calendar year, any unused balance of the
15 amount allocated under subparagraph 1. of this paragraph for continuous
16 film productions shall be made available for all approved companies
17 with motion picture or entertainment productions.
- 18 (5) (a) To qualify for the tax incentive available under KRS 141.383 and this
19 subchapter all applicants shall:
- 20 1. Begin filming or production in Kentucky within six (6) months of
21 approval by the council; and
- 22 2. Complete filming or production in Kentucky within two (2) years of the
23 filming or production start date.
- 24 (b) The tax credit shall be against the Kentucky income tax imposed under KRS
25 141.020 or 141.040, and the limited liability entity tax imposed under KRS
26 141.0401, and shall be refundable as provided in KRS 141.383.
- 27 (c) 1. For a motion picture or entertainment production or continuous film

- 1 production filmed or produced in its entirety in *a heritage*~~[an enhanced~~
2 ~~incentive]~~ county, the amount of the incentive shall be equal to thirty-
3 five percent (35%) of the approved company's:
- 4 a. Qualifying expenditures;
 - 5 b. Qualifying payroll expenditures paid to resident and nonresident
6 below-the-line production crew; and
 - 7 c. Qualifying payroll expenditures paid to resident and nonresident
8 above-the-line production crew not to exceed one million dollars
9 (\$1,000,000) in payroll expenditures per employee.
- 10 2. a. To the extent the approved company films or produces a motion
11 picture or entertainment production or continuous film production
12 in part in *a heritage*~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county and in part a
13 Kentucky county that is not *a heritage*~~[an enhanced incentive]~~
14 county, the approved company shall be eligible to receive the
15 incentives provided in this paragraph for those expenditures
16 incurred in the *heritage*~~[enhanced incentive]~~ county and all other
17 expenditures shall be subject to the incentives provided in
18 paragraph (d) of this subsection.
- 19 b. The approved company shall track the requisite expenditures by
20 county. If the approved company can demonstrate to the
21 satisfaction of the cabinet that it is not practical to use a separate
22 accounting method to determine the expenditures by county, the
23 approved company shall determine the correct expenditures by
24 county using an alternative method approved by the cabinet.
- 25 (d) For a motion picture or entertainment production or continuous film
26 production filmed or produced in whole or in part in any Kentucky county
27 other than in *a heritage*~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county, the amount of the

1 incentive shall be equal to:

- 2 1. Thirty percent (30%) of the approved company's:
- 3 a. Qualifying expenditures;
- 4 b. Qualifying payroll expenditures paid to below-the-line production
- 5 crew that are not residents; and
- 6 c. Qualifying payroll expenditures paid to above-the-line production
- 7 crew that are not residents, not to exceed one million dollars
- 8 (\$1,000,000) in payroll expenditures per employee; and
- 9 2. Thirty-five percent (35%) of the approved company's:
- 10 a. Qualifying payroll expenditures paid to resident below-the-line
- 11 production crew; and
- 12 b. Qualifying payroll expenditures paid to resident above-the-line
- 13 production crew not to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in
- 14 payroll expenditures per employee.

15 ➔Section 24. KRS 148.851 is amended to read as follows:

16 As used in 148.851 to 148.860, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

- 17 (1) "Agreement" means the tourism development agreement entered into between the
- 18 authority and an approved company;
- 19 (2) "Approved company" means any eligible company that has received final approval
- 20 to receive incentives provided under KRS 148.853;
- 21 (3) "Approved costs" means the amount of eligible costs approved by the authority
- 22 upon completion of the project;
- 23 (4) "Authority" means the Kentucky Tourism Development Finance Authority as set
- 24 forth in KRS 148.850;
- 25 (5) "Cabinet" means the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet;
- 26 (6) "Crafts and products center" means a facility primarily devoted to the display,
- 27 promotion, and sale of Kentucky products, and at which a minimum of eighty

1 percent (80%) of the sales occurring at the facility are of Kentucky arts, crafts, or
2 agricultural products;

3 (7) "Eligible company" means any corporation, limited liability company, partnership,
4 limited partnership, sole proprietorship, business trust, or any other entity operating
5 or intending to operate a tourism development project;

6 (8) "Eligible costs" means:

7 (a) Obligations incurred for labor and amounts paid to vendors, contractors,
8 subcontractors, builders, suppliers, deliverymen, and materialmen in
9 connection with the acquisition, construction, equipping, and installation of a
10 tourism development project;

11 (b) The costs of acquiring real property or rights include the acquisition of real
12 property by a leasehold interest with a minimum term of ten (10) years, and
13 any costs incidental thereto;

14 (c) The cost of contract bonds and of insurance of all kinds that may be required
15 or necessary during the course of the acquisition, construction, equipping, and
16 installation of a tourism development project which is not paid by the vendor,
17 supplier, deliveryman, contractor, or otherwise provided;

18 (d) All costs of architectural and engineering services, including but not limited to
19 estimates, plans and specifications, preliminary investigations, and
20 supervision of construction and installation, as well as for the performance of
21 all the duties required by or consequent to the acquisition, construction,
22 equipping, and installation of a tourism development project;

23 (e) All costs required to be paid under the terms of any contract for the
24 acquisition, construction, equipping, and installation of a tourism
25 development project;

26 (f) All costs required for the installation of utilities, including but not limited to
27 water, sewer, sewer treatment, gas, electricity and communications, and

1 including off-site construction of the facilities paid for by the approved
2 company; and

3 (g) All other costs comparable with those described in this subsection, excluding
4 costs subject to refund under KRS 154.20-202, 154.20-204, 154.20-206,
5 154.20-208, and 154.20-210 or Subchapter 31 of KRS Chapter 154;

6 ~~(9) "Enhanced incentive county" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;~~

7 ~~(10)~~ "Entertainment destination center project" means a facility that meets the
8 requirements of KRS 148.853(2)(b);

9 ~~(10)~~~~(11)~~ "Final approval" means the action taken by the authority authorizing the
10 eligible company to receive incentives under KRS 139.536 and 148.851 to 148.860;

11 ~~(11)~~~~(12)~~ "Full-service lodging facility" means a facility that provides overnight
12 sleeping accommodations, including private bathrooms and all of the following:

13 (a) On-site dining facilities;

14 (b) Room service;

15 (c) Catering; and

16 (d) Meeting space;

17 ~~(12)~~~~(13)~~ **"Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking**
18 **determined by the Cabinet for Economic Development under Section 7 of this Act**
19 **scores greater than or equal to ninety-seven (97);**

20 ~~(13)~~ "Incentives" means the Kentucky sales tax refund as prescribed in KRS 139.536;

21 (14) "Kentucky sales tax" means the sales tax imposed by KRS 139.200;

22 (15) "Lodging facility project" means a full-service lodging facility that:

23 (a) 1. Is located on recreational property owned or leased by the
24 Commonwealth or the federal government;

25 2. Involves the restoration or rehabilitation of a structure that:

26 a. Is listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places;

27 or

- 1 b. Is located in the National Register Historic District; and
- 2 is certified by the Kentucky Heritage Council as contributing to the
- 3 historic significance of the district, and the rehabilitation or restoration
- 4 of the structure has been approved in advance by the Kentucky Heritage
- 5 Council;
- 6 3. Is an integral part of a major convention or sports facility;
- 7 4. Is located:
 - 8 a. Within a fifty (50) mile radius of a property listed on the National
 - 9 Register of Historic Places with a current function of recreation
 - 10 and culture; and
 - 11 b. In any of the one hundred (100) least-populated counties in the
 - 12 Commonwealth, in terms of population density, according to the
 - 13 most recent census;
- 14 5. Is located on property:
 - 15 a. Owned by the Commonwealth, or leased by the Commonwealth
 - 16 from the federal government;
 - 17 b. Acquired for use in the state park system pursuant to KRS
 - 18 148.028; and
 - 19 c. Operated by the Kentucky Department of Parks pursuant to KRS
 - 20 148.021 or the Kentucky Horse Park Commission pursuant to
 - 21 KRS 148.258 to 148.320;
- 22 6. Is located on property:
 - 23 a. Owned or leased by the federal government and under the control
 - 24 of the Department of the Interior; or
 - 25 b. Owned by the Commonwealth and in the custody of the State Fair
 - 26 Board as provided in KRS 247.140;
- 27 7. Is part of a tourism attraction project, entertainment destination center

- 1 project, or theme restaurant destination attraction project and the full-
2 service lodging facility represents less than fifty percent (50%) of the
3 total eligible costs; or
- 4 8. Has not less than five hundred (500) guest rooms; or
- 5 (b) 1. Is located:
- 6 a. In any of the one hundred (100) least-populated counties in the
7 Commonwealth, in terms of population density, according to the
8 most recent decennial census;
- 9 b. In a county, the boundaries of which:
- 10 i. Include, in part, the boundaries of a designated national
11 forest; or
- 12 ii. Are adjacent to or include a portion of parallel reservoirs of
13 water surrounding a national recreation area;
- 14 c. Within a heritage~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county and will create at
15 least fifty (50) new full-time jobs within that county; and
- 16 d. Within one-half (1/2) mile of a state resort park;
- 17 2. Has a capital investment of at least one hundred million dollars
18 (\$100,000,000); and
- 19 3. Contains accommodations for:
- 20 a. Lodging, with a minimum of one hundred (100) guest rooms,
21 cabins, or rental units;
- 22 b. Relaxation, including a spa;
- 23 c. More than one (1) on-site dining facility; and
- 24 d. More than one (1) meeting or event space;
- 25 (16) "Net positive fiscal impact" means the amount by which increased state tax
26 revenues will exceed the incentives given;
- 27 (17) "Preliminary approval" means the action taken by the authority conditionally

1 approving an eligible company for the incentives under KRS 139.536 and 148.851
2 to 148.860;

3 (18) "Recreational facility" means a structure or outdoor area that:

4 (a) Provides visitors recreational opportunities, including but not limited to
5 amusement parks, boating, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing,
6 camping, wildlife viewing, live theater, rock climbing, and all-terrain vehicle
7 trails; and

8 (b) Serves as a likely destination where individuals who are not residents of the
9 Commonwealth would remain overnight in commercial lodging at or near the
10 recreational facility;

11 (19) "Theme restaurant destination attraction project" means a restaurant facility that
12 meets the requirements for incentives under KRS 148.853(2)(c);

13 (20) (a) "Tourism attraction project" means:

- 14 1. A cultural or historical site;
- 15 2. A recreational facility;
- 16 3. An entertainment facility;
- 17 4. An area of natural phenomenon or scenic beauty; or
- 18 5. A Kentucky crafts and products center;

19 (b) "Tourism attraction project" does not include facilities that are primarily
20 devoted to the retail sale of goods, other than a Kentucky crafts and products
21 center, or a tourism attraction where the sale of goods is a secondary and
22 subordinate component of the attraction; and

23 (21) "Tourism development project" means:

- 24 (a) A tourism attraction project;
- 25 (b) A theme restaurant destination attraction project;
- 26 (c) An entertainment destination center project; or
- 27 (d) A lodging facility project.

1 ➔Section 25. KRS 148.853 is amended to read as follows:

- 2 (1) The General Assembly finds and declares that:
- 3 (a) The general welfare and material well-being of the citizens of the
4 Commonwealth depend in large measure upon the development of tourism in
5 the Commonwealth;
- 6 (b) It is in the best interest of the Commonwealth to provide incentives for the
7 creation of new tourism attractions and the expansion of existing tourism
8 attractions within the Commonwealth in order to advance the public purposes
9 of relieving unemployment by preserving and creating jobs that would not
10 exist if not for the incentives offered by the authority to approved companies,
11 and by preserving and creating sources of tax revenues for the support of
12 public services provided by the Commonwealth;
- 13 (c) The authorities granted by KRS 148.851 to 148.860 are proper governmental
14 and public purposes for which public moneys may be expended; and
- 15 (d) That the creation or expansion of tourism development projects is of
16 paramount importance mandating that the provisions of KRS 139.536 and
17 KRS 148.851 to 148.860 be liberally construed and applied in order to
18 advance public purposes.
- 19 (2) To qualify for incentives provided in KRS 139.536 and 148.851 to 148.860, the
20 following requirements shall be met:
- 21 (a) For a tourism attraction project:
- 22 1. The total eligible costs shall exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000),
23 except for a tourism attraction project located in a county designated as
24 *a heritage*~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county at the time the eligible
25 company becomes an approved company as provided in KRS
26 148.857(6), the total eligible costs shall exceed five hundred thousand
27 dollars (\$500,000);

- 1 2. In any year, including the first year of operation, the tourism attraction
2 project shall be open to the public at least one hundred (100) days; and
- 3 3. In any year following the third year of operation, the tourism attraction
4 project shall attract at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its visitors
5 from among persons who are not residents of the Commonwealth;
- 6 (b) For an entertainment destination center project:
 - 7 1. The total eligible costs shall exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000);
 - 8 2. The facility shall contain a minimum of two hundred thousand
9 (200,000) square feet of building space adjacent or complementary to an
10 existing tourism attraction project or a major convention facility;
 - 11 3. The incentives shall be dedicated to a public infrastructure purpose that
12 shall relate to the entertainment destination center project;
 - 13 4. In any year, including the first year of operation, the entertainment
14 destination center project shall:
 - 15 a. Be open to the public at least one hundred (100) days per year;
 - 16 b. Maintain at least one (1) major theme restaurant and at least three
17 (3) additional entertainment venues, including but not limited to
18 live entertainment, multiplex theaters, large-format theater, motion
19 simulators, family entertainment centers, concert halls, virtual
20 reality or other interactive games, museums, exhibitions, or other
21 cultural and leisure-time activities; and
 - 22 c. Maintain a minimum occupancy of sixty percent (60%) of the total
23 gross area available for lease with entertainment and food and
24 drink options not including the retail sale of tangible personal
25 property; and
 - 26 5. In any year following the third year of operation, the entertainment
27 destination center project shall attract at least twenty-five percent (25%)

1 of its visitors from among persons who are not residents of the
2 Commonwealth;

3 (c) For a theme restaurant destination attraction project:

4 1. The total eligible costs shall exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000);

5 2. In any year, including the first year of operation, the attraction shall:

6 a. Be open to the public at least three hundred (300) days per year
7 and for at least eight (8) hours per day; and

8 b. Generate no more than fifty percent (50%) of its revenue through
9 the sale of alcoholic beverages;

10 3. In any year following the third year of operation, the theme restaurant
11 destination attraction project shall attract a minimum of fifty percent
12 (50%) of its visitors from among persons who are not residents of the
13 Commonwealth; and

14 4. The theme restaurant destination attraction project shall:

15 a. At the time of final approval, offer a unique dining experience that
16 is not available in the Commonwealth within a one hundred (100)
17 mile radius of the attraction;

18 b. In any year, including the first year of operation, maintain seating
19 capacity of four hundred fifty (450) guests and offer live music or
20 live musical and theatrical entertainment during the peak business
21 hours that the facility is in operation and open to the public; or

22 c. Within three (3) years of the completion date, the attraction shall
23 obtain a top two (2) tier rating by a nationally accredited service
24 and shall maintain a top two (2) tier rating through the term of the
25 agreement;

26 (d) For a lodging facility project defined in KRS 148.851(15)(a):

27 1. a. The eligible costs shall exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000)

- 1 unless the provisions of subdivision b. of this subparagraph apply.
- 2 b. i. If the lodging facility is an integral part of a major
3 convention or sports facility, the eligible costs shall exceed
4 six million dollars (\$6,000,000); and
- 5 ii. If the lodging facility includes five hundred (500) or more
6 guest rooms, the eligible costs shall exceed ten million
7 dollars (\$10,000,000); and
- 8 2. In any year, including the first year of operation, the lodging facility
9 shall:
- 10 a. Be open to the public at least one hundred (100) days; and
11 b. Attract at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its visitors from
12 among persons who are not residents of the Commonwealth;
- 13 (e) For a lodging facility project defined in KRS 148.851(15)(b):
- 14 1. The eligible costs shall exceed one hundred million dollars
15 (\$100,000,000); and
- 16 2. The lodging facility shall:
- 17 a. Be open to the public at least one hundred (100) days each year,
18 including the first year of operation; and
- 19 b. In any year following the third year of operation, attract a
20 minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of its overnight visitors
21 from among persons who are not residents of the Commonwealth;
- 22 (f) Any tourism development project shall not be eligible for incentives if it
23 includes material determined to be lewd, offensive, or deemed to have a
24 negative impact on the tourism industry in the Commonwealth; and
- 25 (g) An expansion of any tourism development project shall in all cases be treated
26 as a new stand-alone project.
- 27 (3) (a) The incentives offered to an approved company under the Kentucky Tourism

1 Development Act may include a sales tax incentive based on the Kentucky
2 sales tax imposed on sales generated by or arising at the tourism development
3 project.

4 (b) 1. For a tourism development project other than a lodging facility project
5 described in subparagraph 4. or 5. of this paragraph:

6 a. A sales tax incentive shall be allowed to an approved company
7 over a period of ten (10) years, except as provided in
8 subparagraphs 7. and 8. of this paragraph; and

9 b. The sales tax incentive shall not exceed the lesser of the total
10 amount of the sales tax liability of the approved company and its
11 lessees or a percentage of the approved costs as specified by the
12 agreement, not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%).

13 2. For projects approved according to the application period established
14 under KRS 148.8531, a tourism attraction project located in a
15 heritage~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county at the time the eligible company
16 becomes an approved company as provided in KRS 148.857(6):

17 a. A sales tax incentive shall be allowed to the approved company
18 over a period of ten (10) years; and

19 b. The sales tax incentive shall not exceed the lesser of the total
20 amount of the sales tax liability of the approved company and its
21 lessees or a percentage of the approved costs as specified by the
22 agreement, not to exceed thirty percent (30%).

23 3. For applications considered after June 27, 2025, including projects
24 related to property to which the title passed from a seller to a buyer on
25 or after March 1, 2025, a tourism attraction project located in a
26 heritage~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county with a population equal to or
27 less than twenty thousand (20,000) based on the most recent decennial

- 1 census at the time the eligible company becomes an approved company
2 as provided in KRS 148.857(6):
- 3 a. A sales tax incentive shall be allowed to the approved company
4 over a period of twenty (20) years; and
- 5 b. The sales tax incentive shall not exceed the lesser of the total
6 amount of the sales tax liability of the approved company and its
7 lessees or a percentage of the approved costs as specified by the
8 agreement, not to exceed fifty percent (50%).
- 9 4. For a lodging facility project described in KRS 148.851(15)(a)5. or 6.:
- 10 a. A sales tax incentive shall be allowed to the approved company
11 over a period of twenty (20) years; and
- 12 b. The sales tax incentive shall not exceed the lesser of total amount
13 of the sales tax liability of the approved company and its lessees or
14 a percentage of the approved costs as specified by the agreement,
15 not to exceed fifty percent (50%).
- 16 5. For a lodging facility project described in KRS 148.851(15)(b), a sales
17 tax incentive that shall:
- 18 a. Be allowed to the approved company over a period of twenty (20)
19 years; and
- 20 b. Not exceed the lesser of the total amount of sales tax liability of
21 the approved company and its lessees or a percentage of the
22 approved costs as specified by the agreement, not to exceed fifty
23 percent (50%).
- 24 6. Any unused incentives from a previous year may be carried forward to
25 any succeeding year during the term of the agreement until the entire
26 specified percentage of the approved costs has been received through
27 sales tax incentives.

- 1 7. If the approved company is an entertainment destination center that has
2 dedicated at least thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) of the incentives
3 provided under the agreement to a public infrastructure purpose, the
4 agreement may be amended to extend the term of the agreement up to
5 two (2) additional years if the approved company agrees to:
- 6 a. Reinvest in the original entertainment destination project one
7 hundred percent (100%) of any incentives received during the
8 extension that were outstanding at the end of the original term of
9 the agreement; and
- 10 b. Report to the authority at the end of each fiscal year the amount of
11 incentives received during the extension and how the incentives
12 were reinvested in the original entertainment destination project.
- 13 8. The term of a tourism development agreement entered into with a
14 tourism attraction project that was in effect on January 1, 2020, shall be
15 extended for one (1) year if the tourism attraction project:
- 16 a. Has historically been open to the public on a seasonal basis
17 consisting of less than six (6) months;
- 18 b. Has previously met the requirement of being open to the public at
19 least one hundred (100) days during the entire term of the tourism
20 development agreement as required under subsection (2)(a)2. of
21 this section;
- 22 c. Failed to be open to the public at least one hundred (100) days
23 during the calendar year 2020 solely as a result of complying with
24 one (1) or more executive orders issued by the Governor under the
25 authority of KRS 39A.090 that prevented the tourism attraction
26 project from being open to the public for at least one hundred
27 (100) days during its normal operating season; and

- 1 d. Applied for a sales tax incentive related to the calendar year 2020
 2 operating season and was denied the sales tax incentive solely on
 3 the basis that the tourism attraction project was not open to the
 4 public for at least one hundred (100) days in calendar year 2020.

5 ➔Section 26. KRS 154.20-230 is amended to read as follows:

6 As used in KRS 154.20-230 to 154.20-240:

- 7 (1) "Application" means a document submitted by small businesses and investors, on a
 8 form supplied by the authority, for the purpose of requesting certification to
 9 participate in the program and to apply for a credit;
- 10 (2) "Authority" means the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority;
- 11 (3) "Commonwealth" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- 12 (4) "Credit" means the nonrefundable angel investor tax credit established by KRS
 13 141.396 and awarded by the authority pursuant to KRS 154.20-236;
- 14 (5) "Department" means the Department of Revenue;
- 15 ~~(6) "Enhanced incentive counties" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;~~
- 16 ~~(7)~~ "Entity" means any corporation, limited liability company, business development
 17 corporation, partnership, limited partnership, sole proprietorship, association, joint
 18 stock company, receivership, trust, professional service organization, or other legal
 19 entity through which business is conducted;
- 20 ~~(7)~~~~(8)~~ "Fee" means a nonrefundable application fee in an amount set by the
 21 authority, to be collected by the authority to offset the cost of administering KRS
 22 154.20-230 to 154.20-240;
- 23 ~~(8)~~~~(9)~~ "Full-time employee" means a person that is required to work a minimum of
 24 thirty-five (35) hours per week and is subject to the tax imposed by KRS 141.020;
- 25 **(9) "Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking**
 26 **determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores greater than or equal**
 27 **to ninety-seven (97);**

- 1 (10) "Knowledge-based" has the same meaning as in KRS 164.6011;
- 2 (11) (a) "Qualified activity" means any knowledge-based activity related to the new
3 economy focus areas of the Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation,
4 including but not limited to:
- 5 1. Bioscience;
 - 6 2. Environmental and energy technology;
 - 7 3. Health and human development;
 - 8 4. Information technology and communications; and
 - 9 5. Materials science and advanced manufacturing.
- 10 (b) A "qualified activity" does not include any activity principally engaged in by
11 financial institutions, commercial development companies, credit companies,
12 financial or investment advisors, brokerage or financial firms, other
13 investment funds or investment fund managers, charitable and religious
14 institutions, oil and gas exploration companies, insurance companies,
15 residential housing developers, retail establishments, or any activity that the
16 authority determines in its discretion to be against the public interest, against
17 the purposes of KRS 154.20-230 to 154.20-240, or in violation of any law.
18 Notwithstanding this paragraph, an entity involved in other technological
19 advances may be deemed to be engaged in qualified activity, as determined by
20 the executive director of the Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation;
- 21 (12) "Qualified investment" means an investment meeting the requirements of KRS
22 154.20-234 for qualified investments, and certified pursuant to KRS 154.20-236;
- 23 (13) "Qualified investor" means an individual investor meeting the requirements of KRS
24 154.20-234 for qualified investors, and certified pursuant to KRS 154.20-236; and
- 25 (14) "Qualified small business" means an entity meeting the requirements of KRS
26 154.20-234 for qualified small businesses, and certified pursuant to KRS 154.20-
27 236.

1 ➔Section 27. KRS 154.20-236 is amended to read as follows:

- 2 (1) The total amount of credit that may be awarded by the authority in each calendar
3 year, pursuant to KRS 154.20-230 to 154.20-240, to:
- 4 (a) All qualified investors shall be no more than three million dollars
5 (\$3,000,000); and
- 6 (b) Any individual qualified investor shall be no more than two hundred thousand
7 dollars (\$200,000).
- 8 (2) (a) The total amount of credit that may be awarded by the authority to:
- 9 1. All qualified investors pursuant to KRS 154.20-230 to 154.20-240; and
10 2. All investors in all investment funds pursuant to KRS 154.20-250 to
11 154.20-284;
- 12 shall be no more than forty million dollars (\$40,000,000) in total for all years
13 prior to December 31, 2020.
- 14 (b) Beginning on or after January 1, 2021, the amount of credit that may be
15 awarded by the authority in each calendar year shall be equal to the amount
16 provided in subsection (1) of this section.
- 17 (c) The authority shall not grant preliminary or final approval for applications
18 received for the Kentucky Angel Investment Act on or after January 1, 2019,
19 but may resume approving applications received on or after January 1, 2021.
- 20 (3) The authority shall, by promulgation of an administrative regulation, develop a
21 standard procedure for:
- 22 (a) Small businesses and investors to request certification for participation in the
23 program;
- 24 (b) Qualified investors to request certification of a planned investment as being a
25 qualified investment, and to apply for a credit; and
- 26 (c) The award of credits to qualified investors making qualified investments.
- 27 (4) At a minimum, the procedure shall:

- 1 (a) Require small businesses and investors to demonstrate to the authority that
 2 they, and any planned investment, satisfy all requirements provided in KRS
 3 154.20-234;
- 4 (b) Provide small businesses and investors with a standard written application
 5 form to request certification and apply for a credit;
- 6 (c) Require the payment of a fee; and
- 7 (d) Mandate a time period for the duration of certifications granted to small
 8 businesses and investors, and the procedures for recertification thereof.
- 9 (5) The amount of credit awarded shall not exceed:
- 10 (a) Twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of the qualified investment, if the
 11 principal place of business of the qualified small business is outside a
 12 heritage~~[an enhanced incentive]~~ county; or
- 13 (b) Forty percent (40%) of the amount of the qualified investment, if the principal
 14 place of business of the qualified small business is in a heritage~~[an enhanced~~
 15 ~~incentive]~~ county.
- 16 (6) Upon approval of a credit, the authority shall reduce the amount of available credit
 17 by the amount of credit approved to the qualified investor.
- 18 (7) The authority may, in effectuating this section, contract with a science and
 19 technology organization as defined in KRS 164.6011 to administer and manage the
 20 certification and application procedure established by the authority. However, the
 21 final approval of all credits shall be made solely by the authority.
- 22 ➔Section 28. KRS 154.34-010 is amended to read as follows:
- 23 As used in this subchapter:
- 24 (1) "Affiliate" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 25 (2) "Agribusiness" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 26 (3) "Alternative fuel production" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 27 (4) "Approved company" means an eligible company approved under KRS 154.34-070

- 1 for a reinvestment project;
- 2 (5) "Approved costs" means the eligible equipment and related costs approved by the
3 authority that may be recovered by an approved company through the incentives
4 authorized by this subchapter;
- 5 (6) "Authority" means the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority
6 created by KRS 154.20-010;
- 7 (7) "Capital lease" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;
- 8 (8) "Carbon dioxide or hydrogen transmission pipeline" has the same meaning as in
9 KRS 154.32-010;
- 10 (9) "Coal severing and processing" means activities resulting in an eligible company
11 being subject to the tax imposed by KRS Chapter 143;
- 12 (10) "Commonwealth" means the Commonwealth of Kentucky;
- 13 (11) "Department" means the Department of Revenue;
- 14 (12) (a) "Eligible company" means any corporation, limited liability company,
15 partnership, limited partnership, sole proprietorship, business trust, or any
16 other entity:
- 17 1. Employing or intending to employ a minimum of twenty-five (25)
18 persons on a full-time bases; and
 - 19 2. Engaged in or planning to engage in one (1) or more of the following
20 activities:
 - 21 a. Headquarter operations;
 - 22 b. Manufacturing;
 - 23 c. Agribusiness;
 - 24 d. Nonretail service or technology;
 - 25 e. Coal severing and processing;
 - 26 f. Alternative fuel, gasification, energy-efficient alternative fuel, or
27 renewable energy production;

1 g. Carbon dioxide or hydrogen transmission pipeline operations; or
2 h. Hospital operations;
3 at the same facility located and operating within the Commonwealth on
4 a permanent basis for a reasonable period of time preceding the request
5 for approval of a reinvestment project by the authority, including
6 facilities where operations have been temporarily suspended and which
7 meet the standards under KRS 154.34-070 and related administrative
8 regulations promulgated by the authority.

9 (b) "Eligible company" does not include any company for which the primary
10 activity to be conducted within the Commonwealth is:

- 11 1. Forestry;
- 12 2. Fishing;
- 13 3. The provision of utilities;
- 14 4. Construction;
- 15 5. Wholesale trade;
- 16 6. Retail trade;
- 17 7. Real estate;
- 18 8. Rental and leasing;
- 19 9. Educational services;
- 20 10. Accommodation and food services; or
- 21 11. Public administration services;

22 (13) (a) "Eligible equipment and related costs" means:

- 23 1. Obligations incurred for labor and to vendors, contractors,
24 subcontractors, builders, suppliers, deliverymen, and materialmen in
25 connection with the acquisition, construction, equipping, rehabilitation,
26 and installation of a reinvestment project;
- 27 2. The cost of contract bonds and of insurance of all kinds that may be

- 1 required or necessary during the course of acquisition, construction,
2 equipping, rehabilitation, and installation of a reinvestment project
3 which is not paid by the vendor, supplier, deliveryman, contractor, or
4 otherwise provided;
- 5 3. All costs of architectural and engineering services, including estimates,
6 plans and specifications, preliminary investigations, and supervision of
7 construction, rehabilitation and installation, as well as for the
8 performance of all the duties required by or consequent upon the
9 acquisition, construction, equipping, rehabilitation, and installation of a
10 reinvestment project;
- 11 4. All costs required to be paid under the terms of any contract for the
12 acquisition, construction, equipping, rehabilitation, and installation of a
13 reinvestment project;
- 14 5. All costs required for the installation of utilities, including but not
15 limited to water, sewer, sewer treatment, gas, electricity,
16 communications, and access to transportation, and including off-site
17 construction of the facilities paid for by the approved company; and
- 18 6. All other costs of a nature comparable to those described in this
19 paragraph.
- 20 (b) "Eligible equipment and related costs" does not include costs related to the
21 replacement or repair of existing machinery or equipment resulting from
22 normal wear and usage of the machinery or equipment;
- 23 (14) "Energy-efficient alternative fuel production" has the same meaning as in KRS
24 154.32-010;
- 25 ~~(15) "Enhanced incentive counties" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;~~
- 26 ~~(16)~~ "Equipment" means manufacturing machinery equipment, computers, furnishings,
27 fixtures, and other assets installed by the approved company as part of the

1 reinvestment project;

2 ~~(16)~~~~(17)~~ "Final approval" means the action taken by the authority designating a
3 preliminarily approved eligible company as an approved company to receive
4 incentives under this subchapter;

5 ~~(17)~~~~(18)~~ "Full-time employee" means a person who:

6 (a) Is required to work a minimum of thirty-five (35) hours per week; or

7 (b) Works remotely away from the reinvestment project if all the following
8 conditions are met:

9 1. Is a Kentucky resident;

10 2. Whose job was created or retained as a result of the reinvestment
11 project; and

12 3. Whose payroll is expensed to the reinvestment project;

13 ~~(18)~~~~(19)~~ "Gasification production" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

14 ~~(19)~~~~(20)~~ "Headquarters" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

15 **(20) "Heritage county" means a county where the county population ranking**
16 **determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores greater than or equal**
17 **to ninety-seven (97);**

18 (21) "Hospital" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

19 (22) "Incentives" means the Kentucky tax credit as prescribed in this subchapter;

20 (23) "Kentucky gross profits" has the same meaning as in KRS 141.0401;

21 (24) "Kentucky gross receipts" has the same meaning as in KRS 141.0401;

22 (25) "Leased project" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

23 (26) "Manufacturing" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

24 (27) "Nonretail service or technology" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

25 (28) "Personal protective equipment" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010;

26 (29) "Preliminary approval" means the action taken by the authority designating an
27 eligible company as a preliminarily approved company;

1 (30) "Reinvestment agreement" means the agreement entered into pursuant to KRS
2 154.34-080 between the authority and an approved company with respect to a
3 reinvestment project;

4 (31) "Reinvestment project" means:

5 (a) A reinvestment in the facility of an eligible company and in the full-time
6 employees of an eligible company through the acquisition, construction, and
7 installation of new equipment and, with respect thereto, the construction,
8 rehabilitation, and installation of improvements to facilities necessary to
9 house the new equipment, including surveys; installation of utilities, including
10 water, sewer, sewage treatment, gas, electricity, communications, and similar
11 facilities; or off-site construction of utility extensions to the boundaries of the
12 real estate on which the facilities are located;

13 (b) The expenditure of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in eligible
14 equipment and related costs for leased projects and at least two million five
15 hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) in eligible equipment and related costs
16 for all other reinvestment projects; and

17 (c) A reinvestment in a facility in order to allow for the production of vital
18 medications, personal protective equipment, or equipment necessary to
19 produce personal protective equipment;

20 (32) "Renewable energy production" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010; and

21 (33) "Vital medications" has the same meaning as in KRS 154.32-010.

22 ➔Section 29. KRS 164.6021 is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) The Cabinet for Economic Development shall manage the Kentucky enterprise fund
24 to provide capital to small and medium-size, Kentucky-based companies to
25 undertake feasibility, concept development, research and development, or
26 commercialization work.

27 (2) The purpose of the Kentucky enterprise fund is to:

- 1 (a) Accelerate knowledge transfer and technological innovation, improve
2 economic competitiveness, and spur economic growth in Kentucky-based
3 companies;
- 4 (b) Support feasibility, concept development, research and development, or
5 commercialization activities that have clear potential to lead to commercially
6 successful products, processes, or services within a reasonable period of time;
- 7 (c) Stimulate growth-oriented enterprises within the Commonwealth;
- 8 (d) Encourage partnerships and collaborative projects between private enterprises,
9 Kentucky's colleges and universities, and research organizations;
- 10 (e) Promote research and development and commercialization activities that are
11 market-oriented; and
- 12 (f) Support small and medium-sized companies.
- 13 (3) The Kentucky enterprise fund shall be used to fund qualified companies in
14 accordance with this section as follows:
- 15 (a) Grants of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for companies exploring the
16 feasibility of technology commercialization or projects related to feasibility
17 studies, such as incubator and accelerator programs;
- 18 (b) Funding of up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) for companies
19 in the concept development phase of technology commercialization;
- 20 (c) Funding of up to five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for companies
21 advancing and promoting the program goals, as outlined in subsection (2) of
22 this section; and
- 23 (d) For new investments made on or after July 1, 2021, no qualified company can
24 receive a total investment from the fund in excess of up to five hundred
25 thousand dollars (\$500,000).
- 26 (4) Beginning July 1, 2021, the cabinet shall allocate at least twenty percent (20%) of
27 the annual allotment of funds for the Kentucky enterprise fund to qualified

1 companies located in rural or heritage~~[enhanced-incentive]~~ counties~~[, as certified~~
2 ~~under KRS 154.32-050]~~, and at least twenty percent (20%) of the annual allotment
3 of funds to qualified companies located in Opportunity Zones, as designated by the
4 Commonwealth and certified by the Secretary of the United States Treasury. As
5 used in this subsection, "heritage county" means a county where the county
6 population ranking determined by the cabinet under Section 7 of this Act scores
7 greater than or equal to ninety-seven (97).

8 (5) For all funding totaling more than thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000), the science and
9 technology organization or any entity designated by the executive director of the
10 Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation shall receive an equity interest in the
11 qualified company, such as a general or limited partnership interest, limited liability
12 company interest, common or preferred stock with or without voting rights and
13 without regard to seniority position, forms of subordinate or convertible unsecured
14 debt, or both, with warrants, rights, or other means of equity conversion attached, a
15 near equity interest such as a simple agreement for future equity or "SAFE
16 agreement", or other convertible debt instruments that are determined to qualify as
17 an adequate investment interest by the executive director of the Office of
18 Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

19 ➔Section 30. The Cabinet for Economic Development's various incentive
20 programs play a vital role in supporting economic development and job growth
21 throughout the Commonwealth. To ensure companies operating within the
22 Commonwealth's border counties are not negatively impacted by employees residing in
23 adjacent states and to encourage companies operating in adjacent states to hire Kentucky
24 residents, the cabinet is encouraged to conduct a feasibility and impact study on interstate
25 reciprocity between state economic development programming. The study shall at a
26 minimum identify any existing models, identify the potential economic impacts of such
27 an arrangement between Kentucky and adjacent states, assess the feasibility and cost

1 implications of implementing those models, and provide recommendations. The Cabinet
2 shall collaborate with the Center for Economic and Entrepreneurial Development at
3 Murray State University to establish the scope of the study. If the cabinet completes such
4 a study, it shall be submitted to the Interim Joint Committee on Economic Development
5 and Workforce Investment by December 1, 2028.

6 ➔Section 31. Notwithstanding KRS 45.229, the balance of the General Fund
7 appropriation authorized in 2022 Ky. Acts ch. 199, Part I, B., 1., (12) shall not lapse and
8 shall carry forward. Projects considered for KPDI funding shall meet the requirements
9 under KRS 154.21-017.

10 ➔Section 32. The following KRS section is repealed:

11 154.32-050 Enhanced incentive counties -- Annual identification and certification
12 or decertification -- Criteria -- Multicounty industrial park projects.

13 ➔Section 33. Whereas areas of Kentucky have been impacted by high
14 unemployment an emergency is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect upon its
15 passage and approval by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.