

1 AN ACT relating to public charter schools.

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

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 18A.225 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) (a) The term "employee" for purposes of this section means:

- 5 1. Any person, including an elected public official, who is regularly
6 employed by any department, office, board, agency, or branch of state
7 government; or by a public postsecondary educational institution; or by
8 any city, urban-county, charter county, county, or consolidated local
9 government, whose legislative body has opted to participate in the state-
10 sponsored health insurance program pursuant to KRS 79.080; and who
11 is either a contributing member to any one (1) of the retirement systems
12 administered by the state, including but not limited to the Kentucky
13 Retirement Systems, County Employees Retirement System, Kentucky
14 Teachers' Retirement System, the Legislators' Retirement Plan, or the
15 Judicial Retirement Plan; or is receiving a contractual contribution from
16 the state toward a retirement plan; or, in the case of a public
17 postsecondary education institution, is an individual participating in an
18 optional retirement plan authorized by KRS 161.567; or is eligible to
19 participate in a retirement plan established by an employer who ceases
20 participating in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System pursuant to
21 KRS 61.522 whose employees participated in the health insurance plans
22 administered by the Personnel Cabinet prior to the employer's effective
23 cessation date in the Kentucky Employees Retirement System;
- 24 2. Any certified or classified employee of a local board of education~~or a~~
25 ~~public charter school as defined in KRS 160.1590~~;
- 26 3. Any elected member of a local board of education;
- 27 4. Any person who is a present or future recipient of a retirement

1 allowance from the Kentucky Retirement Systems, County Employees
2 Retirement System, Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, the
3 Legislators' Retirement Plan, the Judicial Retirement Plan, or the
4 Kentucky Community and Technical College System's optional
5 retirement plan authorized by KRS 161.567, except that a person who is
6 receiving a retirement allowance and who is age sixty-five (65) or older
7 shall not be included, with the exception of persons covered under KRS
8 61.702(2)(b)3. and 78.5536(2)(b)3., unless he or she is actively
9 employed pursuant to subparagraph 1. of this paragraph; and

10 5. Any eligible dependents and beneficiaries of participating employees
11 and retirees who are entitled to participate in the state-sponsored health
12 insurance program;

13 (b) The term "health benefit plan" for the purposes of this section means a health
14 benefit plan as defined in KRS 304.17A-005;

15 (c) The term "insurer" for the purposes of this section means an insurer as defined
16 in KRS 304.17A-005; and

17 (d) The term "managed care plan" for the purposes of this section means a
18 managed care plan as defined in KRS 304.17A-500.

19 (2) (a) The secretary of the Finance and Administration Cabinet, upon the
20 recommendation of the secretary of the Personnel Cabinet, shall procure, in
21 compliance with the provisions of KRS 45A.080, 45A.085, and 45A.090,
22 from one (1) or more insurers authorized to do business in this state, a group
23 health benefit plan that may include but not be limited to health maintenance
24 organization (HMO), preferred provider organization (PPO), point of service
25 (POS), and exclusive provider organization (EPO) benefit plans
26 encompassing all or any class or classes of employees. With the exception of
27 employers governed by the provisions of KRS Chapters 16, 18A, and 151B,

1 all employers of any class of employees or former employees shall enter into
2 a contract with the Personnel Cabinet prior to including that group in the state
3 health insurance group. The contracts shall include but not be limited to
4 designating the entity responsible for filing any federal forms, adoption of
5 policies required for proper plan administration, acceptance of the contractual
6 provisions with health insurance carriers or third-party administrators, and
7 adoption of the payment and reimbursement methods necessary for efficient
8 administration of the health insurance program. Health insurance coverage
9 provided to state employees under this section shall, at a minimum, contain
10 the same benefits as provided under Kentucky Kare Standard as of January 1,
11 1994, and shall include a mail-order drug option as provided in subsection
12 (13) of this section. All employees and other persons for whom the health care
13 coverage is provided or made available shall annually be given an option to
14 elect health care coverage through a self-funded plan offered by the
15 Commonwealth or, if a self-funded plan is not available, from a list of
16 coverage options determined by the competitive bid process under the
17 provisions of KRS 45A.080, 45A.085, and 45A.090 and made available
18 during annual open enrollment.

19 (b) The policy or policies shall be approved by the commissioner of insurance
20 and may contain the provisions the commissioner of insurance approves,
21 whether or not otherwise permitted by the insurance laws.

22 (c) Any carrier bidding to offer health care coverage to employees shall agree to
23 provide coverage to all members of the state group, including active
24 employees and retirees and their eligible covered dependents and
25 beneficiaries, within the county or counties specified in its bid. Except as
26 provided in subsection (20) of this section, any carrier bidding to offer health
27 care coverage to employees shall also agree to rate all employees as a single

1 entity, except for those retirees whose former employers insure their active
2 employees outside the state-sponsored health insurance program and as
3 otherwise provided in KRS 61.702(2)(b)3.b. and 78.5536(2)(b)3.b.

4 (d) Any carrier bidding to offer health care coverage to employees shall agree to
5 provide enrollment, claims, and utilization data to the Commonwealth in a
6 format specified by the Personnel Cabinet with the understanding that the data
7 shall be owned by the Commonwealth; to provide data in an electronic form
8 and within a time frame specified by the Personnel Cabinet; and to be subject
9 to penalties for noncompliance with data reporting requirements as specified
10 by the Personnel Cabinet. The Personnel Cabinet shall take strict precautions
11 to protect the confidentiality of each individual employee; however,
12 confidentiality assertions shall not relieve a carrier from the requirement of
13 providing stipulated data to the Commonwealth.

14 (e) The Personnel Cabinet shall develop the necessary techniques and capabilities
15 for timely analysis of data received from carriers and, to the extent possible,
16 provide in the request-for-proposal specifics relating to data requirements,
17 electronic reporting, and penalties for noncompliance. The Commonwealth
18 shall own the enrollment, claims, and utilization data provided by each carrier
19 and shall develop methods to protect the confidentiality of the individual. The
20 Personnel Cabinet shall include in the October annual report submitted
21 pursuant to the provisions of KRS 18A.226 to the Governor, the General
22 Assembly, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, an analysis of the
23 financial stability of the program, which shall include but not be limited to
24 loss ratios, methods of risk adjustment, measurements of carrier quality of
25 service, prescription coverage and cost management, and statutorily required
26 mandates. If state self-insurance was available as a carrier option, the report
27 also shall provide a detailed financial analysis of the self-insurance fund

1 including but not limited to loss ratios, reserves, and reinsurance agreements.

2 (f) If any agency participating in the state-sponsored employee health insurance
3 program for its active employees terminates participation and there is a state
4 appropriation for the employer's contribution for active employees' health
5 insurance coverage, then neither the agency nor the employees shall receive
6 the state-funded contribution after termination from the state-sponsored
7 employee health insurance program.

8 (g) Any funds in flexible spending accounts that remain after all reimbursements
9 have been processed shall be transferred to the credit of the state-sponsored
10 health insurance plan's appropriation account.

11 (h) Each entity participating in the state-sponsored health insurance program shall
12 provide an amount at least equal to the state contribution rate for the employer
13 portion of the health insurance premium. For any participating entity that used
14 the state payroll system, the employer contribution amount shall be equal to
15 but not greater than the state contribution rate.

16 (3) The premiums may be paid by the policyholder:
17 (a) Wholly from funds contributed by the employee, by payroll deduction or
18 otherwise;
19 (b) Wholly from funds contributed by any department, board, agency, public
20 postsecondary education institution, or branch of state, city, urban-county,
21 charter county, county, or consolidated local government; or
22 (c) Partly from each, except that any premium due for health care coverage or
23 dental coverage, if any, in excess of the premium amount contributed by any
24 department, board, agency, postsecondary education institution, or branch of
25 state, city, urban-county, charter county, county, or consolidated local
26 government for any other health care coverage shall be paid by the employee.

27 (4) If an employee moves his or her place of residence or employment out of the

1 service area of an insurer offering a managed health care plan, under which he or
2 she has elected coverage, into either the service area of another managed health care
3 plan or into an area of the Commonwealth not within a managed health care plan
4 service area, the employee shall be given an option, at the time of the move or
5 transfer, to change his or her coverage to another health benefit plan.

6 (5) ~~A[No]~~ payment of premium by any department, board, agency, public
7 postsecondary educational institution, or branch of state, city, urban-county, charter
8 county, county, or consolidated local government shall not constitute compensation
9 to an insured employee for the purposes of any statute fixing or limiting the
10 compensation of such an employee. Any premium or other expense incurred by any
11 department, board, agency, public postsecondary educational institution, or branch
12 of state, city, urban-county, charter county, county, or consolidated local
13 government shall be considered a proper cost of administration.

14 (6) The policy or policies may contain the provisions with respect to the class or classes
15 of employees covered, amounts of insurance or coverage for designated classes or
16 groups of employees, policy options, terms of eligibility, and continuation of
17 insurance or coverage after retirement.

18 (7) Group rates under this section shall be made available to the disabled child of an
19 employee regardless of the child's age if the entire premium for the disabled child's
20 coverage is paid by the state employee. A child shall be considered disabled if he or
21 she has been determined to be eligible for federal Social Security disability benefits.

22 (8) The health care contract or contracts for employees shall be entered into for a
23 period of not less than one (1) year.

24 (9) The secretary shall appoint thirty-two (32) persons to an Advisory Committee of
25 State Health Insurance Subscribers to advise the secretary or the secretary's
26 designee regarding the state-sponsored health insurance program for employees.
27 The secretary shall appoint, from a list of names submitted by appointing

1 authorities, members representing school districts from each of the seven (7)
2 Supreme Court districts, members representing state government from each of the
3 seven (7) Supreme Court districts, two (2) members representing retirees under age
4 sixty-five (65), one (1) member representing local health departments, two (2)
5 members representing the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, and three (3)
6 members at large. The secretary shall also appoint two (2) members from a list of
7 five (5) names submitted by the Kentucky Education Association, two (2) members
8 from a list of five (5) names submitted by the largest state employee organization of
9 nonschool state employees, two (2) members from a list of five (5) names submitted
10 by the Kentucky Association of Counties, two (2) members from a list of five (5)
11 names submitted by the Kentucky League of Cities, and two (2) members from a
12 list of names consisting of five (5) names submitted by each state employee
13 organization that has two thousand (2,000) or more members on state payroll
14 deduction. The advisory committee shall be appointed in January of each year and
15 shall meet quarterly.

16 (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the policy or policies
17 provided to employees pursuant to this section shall not provide coverage for
18 obtaining or performing an abortion, nor shall any state funds be used for the
19 purpose of obtaining or performing an abortion on behalf of employees or their
20 dependents.

21 (11) Interruption of an established treatment regime with maintenance drugs shall be
22 grounds for an insured to appeal a formulary change through the established appeal
23 procedures approved by the Department of Insurance, if the physician supervising
24 the treatment certifies that the change is not in the best interests of the patient.

25 (12) Any employee who is eligible for and elects to participate in the state health
26 insurance program as a retiree, or the spouse or beneficiary of a retiree, under any
27 one (1) of the state-sponsored retirement systems shall not be eligible to receive the

1 state health insurance contribution toward health care coverage as a result of any
2 other employment for which there is a public employer contribution. This does not
3 preclude a retiree and an active employee spouse from using both contributions to
4 the extent needed for purchase of one (1) state sponsored health insurance policy
5 for that plan year.

6 (13) (a) The policies of health insurance coverage procured under subsection (2) of
7 this section shall include a mail-order drug option for maintenance drugs for
8 state employees. Maintenance drugs may be dispensed by mail order in
9 accordance with Kentucky law.

10 (b) A health insurer shall not discriminate against any retail pharmacy located
11 within the geographic coverage area of the health benefit plan and that meets
12 the terms and conditions for participation established by the insurer, including
13 price, dispensing fee, and copay requirements of a mail-order option. The
14 retail pharmacy shall not be required to dispense by mail.

15 (c) The mail-order option shall not permit the dispensing of a controlled
16 substance classified in Schedule II.

17 (14) The policy or policies provided to state employees or their dependents pursuant to
18 this section shall provide coverage for obtaining a hearing aid and acquiring hearing
19 aid-related services for insured individuals under eighteen (18) years of age, subject
20 to a cap of one thousand four hundred dollars (\$1,400) every thirty-six (36) months
21 pursuant to KRS 304.17A-132.

22 (15) Any policy provided to state employees or their dependents pursuant to this section
23 shall provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders
24 consistent with KRS 304.17A-142.

25 (16) Any policy provided to state employees or their dependents pursuant to this section
26 shall provide coverage for obtaining amino acid-based elemental formula pursuant
27 to KRS 304.17A-258.

- 1 (17) If a state employee's residence and place of employment are in the same county,
2 and if the hospital located within that county does not offer surgical services,
3 intensive care services, obstetrical services, level II neonatal services, diagnostic
4 cardiac catheterization services, and magnetic resonance imaging services, the
5 employee may select a plan available in a contiguous county that does provide
6 those services, and the state contribution for the plan shall be the amount available
7 in the county where the plan selected is located.
- 8 (18) If a state employee's residence and place of employment are each located in
9 counties in which the hospitals do not offer surgical services, intensive care
10 services, obstetrical services, level II neonatal services, diagnostic cardiac
11 catheterization services, and magnetic resonance imaging services, the employee
12 may select a plan available in a county contiguous to the county of residence that
13 does provide those services, and the state contribution for the plan shall be the
14 amount available in the county where the plan selected is located.
- 15 (19) The Personnel Cabinet is encouraged to study whether it is fair and reasonable and
16 in the best interests of the state group to allow any carrier bidding to offer health
17 care coverage under this section to submit bids that may vary county by county or
18 by larger geographic areas.
- 19 (20) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the bid for proposals for health
20 insurance coverage for calendar year 2004 shall include a bid scenario that reflects
21 the statewide rating structure provided in calendar year 2003 and a bid scenario that
22 allows for a regional rating structure that allows carriers to submit bids that may
23 vary by region for a given product offering as described in this subsection:
 - 24 (a) The regional rating bid scenario shall not include a request for bid on a
25 statewide option;
 - 26 (b) The Personnel Cabinet shall divide the state into geographical regions which
27 shall be the same as the partnership regions designated by the Department for

1 Medicaid Services for purposes of the Kentucky Health Care Partnership
2 Program established pursuant to 907 KAR 1:705;

3 (c) The request for proposal shall require a carrier's bid to include every county
4 within the region or regions for which the bid is submitted and include but not
5 be restricted to a preferred provider organization (PPO) option;

6 (d) If the Personnel Cabinet accepts a carrier's bid, the cabinet shall award the
7 carrier all of the counties included in its bid within the region. If the Personnel
8 Cabinet deems the bids submitted in accordance with this subsection to be in
9 the best interests of state employees in a region, the cabinet may award the
10 contract for that region to no more than two (2) carriers; and

11 (e) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the Personnel Cabinet from including
12 other requirements or criteria in the request for proposal.

13 (21) Any fully insured health benefit plan or self-insured plan issued or renewed on or
14 after July 12, 2006, to public employees pursuant to this section which provides
15 coverage for services rendered by a physician or osteopath duly licensed under KRS
16 Chapter 311 that are within the scope of practice of an optometrist duly licensed
17 under the provisions of KRS Chapter 320 shall provide the same payment of
18 coverage to optometrists as allowed for those services rendered by physicians or
19 osteopaths.

20 (22) Any fully insured health benefit plan or self-insured plan issued or renewed to
21 public employees pursuant to this section shall comply with:

22 (a) KRS 304.12-237;

23 (b) KRS 304.17A-270 and 304.17A-525;

24 (c) KRS 304.17A-600 to 304.17A-633;

25 (d) KRS 205.593;

26 (e) KRS 304.17A-700 to 304.17A-730;

27 (f) KRS 304.14-135;

1 (g) KRS 304.17A-580 and 304.17A-641;
2 (h) KRS 304.99-123;
3 (i) KRS 304.17A-138;
4 (j) KRS 304.17A-148;
5 (k) KRS 304.17A-163 and 304.17A-1631;
6 (l) KRS 304.17A-265;
7 (m) KRS 304.17A-261;
8 (n) KRS 304.17A-262;
9 (o) KRS 304.17A-145;
10 (p) KRS 304.17A-129;
11 (q) KRS 304.17A-133;
12 (r) KRS 304.17A-264; and
13 (s) Administrative regulations promulgated pursuant to statutes listed in this
14 subsection.

15 (23) (a) Any fully insured health benefit plan or self-insured plan issued or renewed to
16 public employees pursuant to this section shall provide a special enrollment
17 period to pregnant women who are eligible for coverage in accordance with
18 the requirements set forth in KRS 304.17-182.
19 (b) The Department of Employee Insurance shall, at or before the time a public
20 employee is initially offered the opportunity to enroll in the plan or coverage,
21 provide the employee a notice of the special enrollment rights under this
22 subsection.

23 ➔Section 2. KRS 78.510 is amended to read as follows:

24 As used in KRS 78.510 to 78.852, unless the context otherwise requires:

25 (1) "System" means the County Employees Retirement System created by KRS 78.510
26 to 78.852;

27 (2) "Board" means the board of trustees of the system as provided in KRS 78.782;

1 (3) "County" means any county, or nonprofit organization created and governed by a
2 county, counties, or elected county officers, sheriff and his or her employees,
3 county clerk and his or her employees, circuit clerk and his or her deputies, former
4 circuit clerks or former circuit clerk deputies, or political subdivision or
5 instrumentality, including school boards, cities, charter county governments, urban-
6 county governments, consolidated local governments, or unified local governments
7 participating in the system by order appropriate to its governmental structure, as
8 provided in KRS 78.530, and if the board is willing to accept the agency,
9 organization, or corporation, the board being hereby granted the authority to
10 determine the eligibility of the agency to participate;

11 (4) "School board" means—
12 (a) any board of education participating in the system by order appropriate to its
13 governmental structure, as provided in KRS 78.530, and if the board is willing
14 to accept the agency or corporation, the board being hereby granted the
15 authority to determine the eligibility of the agency to participate; or
16 (b) ~~A public charter school as defined in KRS 160.1590 if the public charter
17 school satisfies the criteria set by the Internal Revenue Service to participate
18 in a governmental retirement plan;~~

19 (5) "Examiner" means the medical examiners as provided in KRS 61.665;

20 (6) "Employee" means every regular full-time appointed or elective officer or
21 employee of a participating county and the coroner of a participating county,
22 whether or not he or she qualifies as a regular full-time officer. The term shall not
23 include persons engaged as independent contractors, seasonal, emergency,
24 temporary, and part-time workers. In case of any doubt, the board shall determine if
25 a person is an employee within the meaning of KRS 78.510 to 78.852;

26 (7) "Employer" means a county, as defined in subsection (3) of this section, the elected
27 officials of a county, or any authority of the county having the power to appoint or

1 elect an employee to office or employment in the county;

2 (8) "Member" means any employee who is included in the membership of the system
3 or any former employee whose membership has not ceased under KRS 78.535;

4 (9) "Service" means the total of current service and prior service as defined in this
5 section;

6 (10) "Current service" means the number of years and months of employment as an
7 employee, on and after July 1, 1958, for which creditable compensation is paid and
8 employee contributions deducted, except as otherwise provided;

9 (11) "Prior service" means the number of years and completed months, expressed as a
10 fraction of a year, of employment as an employee, prior to July 1, 1958, for which
11 creditable compensation was paid. An employee shall be credited with one (1)
12 month of prior service only in those months he or she received compensation for at
13 least one hundred (100) hours of work. Twelve (12) months of current service in the
14 system shall be required to validate prior service;

15 (12) "Accumulated contributions" means the sum of all amounts deducted from the
16 compensation of a member and credited to his or her individual account in the
17 members' account, including employee contributions picked up after August 1,
18 1982, pursuant to KRS 78.610(4), together with interest credited, on the amounts,
19 and any other amounts the member shall have contributed thereto, including interest
20 credited thereon. "Accumulated contributions" shall not include employee
21 contributions that are deposited into accounts established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. sec.
22 401(h) within the fund established in KRS 78.520, as prescribed by KRS
23 78.5536(3)(b);

24 (13) "Creditable compensation":

25 (a) Except as limited by paragraph (c) of this subsection, means all salary, wages,
26 and fees, including payments for compensatory time, paid to the employee as
27 a result of services performed for the employer or for time during which the

1 member is on paid leave, which are includable on the member's federal form
2 W-2 wage and tax statement under the heading "wages, tips, other
3 compensation", including employee contributions picked up after August 1,
4 1982, pursuant to KRS 78.610(4). The creditable compensation of fee officers
5 who receive salary, fees, maintenance, or other perquisites as a result of their
6 official duties is the gross amount received decreased by the cost of salary
7 paid deputies and clerks and the cost of office supplies and other official
8 expenses;

9 (b) Includes:

- 10 1. Lump-sum bonuses, severance pay, or employer-provided payments for
11 purchase of service credit, which shall be averaged over the employee's
12 service with the system in which it is recorded if it is equal to or greater
13 than one thousand dollars (\$1,000);
- 14 2. Cases where compensation includes maintenance and other perquisites,
15 but the board shall fix the value of that part of the compensation not paid
16 in money;
- 17 3. Lump-sum payments for creditable compensation paid as a result of an
18 order of a court of competent jurisdiction, the Personnel Board, or the
19 Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, or for any creditable
20 compensation paid in anticipation of settlement of an action before a
21 court of competent jurisdiction, the Personnel Board, or the Kentucky
22 Commission on Human Rights, including notices of violations of state
23 or federal wage and hour statutes or violations of state or federal
24 discrimination statutes, which shall be credited to the fiscal year during
25 which the wages were earned or should have been paid by the employer.
26 This subparagraph shall also include lump-sum payments for reinstated
27 wages pursuant to KRS 61.569, which shall be credited to the period

3 4. Amounts which are not includable in the member's gross income by
4 virtue of the member having taken a voluntary salary reduction provided
5 for under applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code; and

6 5. Elective amounts for qualified transportation fringes paid or made
7 available on or after January 1, 2001, for calendar years on or after
8 January 1, 2001, that are not includable in the gross income of the
9 employee by reason of 26 U.S.C. sec. 132(f)(4); and

10 (c) Excludes:

11 1. Living allowances, expense reimbursements, lump-sum payments for
12 accrued vacation leave, sick leave except as provided in KRS 78.616(5),
13 and other items determined by the board;

16 3. Training incentive payments for city officers paid as set out in KRS
17 64.5277 to 64.5279;

20 5. Any salary or wages paid to an employee for services as a Kentucky
21 State Police school resource officer as defined by KRS 158.441;

22 (14) "Final compensation" means:

23 (a) For a member who begins participating before September 1, 2008, who is
24 employed in a nonhazardous position, the creditable compensation of the
25 member during the five (5) fiscal years he or she was paid at the highest
26 average monthly rate divided by the number of months of service credit
27 during that five (5) year period multiplied by twelve (12). The five (5) years

1 may be fractional and need not be consecutive. If the number of months of
2 service credit during the five (5) year period is less than forty-eight (48), one
3 (1) or more additional fiscal years shall be used;

4 (b) For a member who is employed in a nonhazardous position, whose effective
5 retirement date is between August 1, 2001, and January 1, 2009, and whose
6 total service credit is at least twenty-seven (27) years and whose age and years
7 of service total at least seventy-five (75), final compensation means the
8 creditable compensation of the member during the three (3) fiscal years the
9 member was paid at the highest average monthly rate divided by the number
10 of months of service credit during that three (3) year period multiplied by
11 twelve (12). The three (3) years may be fractional and need not be
12 consecutive. If the number of months of service credit during the three (3)
13 year period is less than twenty-four (24), one (1) or more additional fiscal
14 years shall be used;

15 (c) For a member who begins participating before September 1, 2008, who is
16 employed in a hazardous position, as provided in KRS 78.5520, the creditable
17 compensation of the member during the three (3) fiscal years he or she was
18 paid at the highest average monthly rate divided by the number of months of
19 service credit during that three (3) year period multiplied by twelve (12). The
20 three (3) years may be fractional and need not be consecutive. If the number
21 of months of service credit during the three (3) year period is less than twenty-
22 four (24), one (1) or more additional fiscal years, which may contain less than
23 twelve (12) months of service credit, shall be used;

24 (d) For a member who begins participating on or after September 1, 2008, but
25 prior to January 1, 2014, who is employed in a nonhazardous position, the
26 creditable compensation of the member during the five (5) complete fiscal
27 years immediately preceding retirement divided by five (5). Each fiscal year

1 used to determine final compensation must contain twelve (12) months of
2 service credit. If the member does not have five (5) complete fiscal years that
3 each contain twelve (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more
4 additional fiscal years, which may contain less than twelve (12) months of
5 service credit, shall be added until the number of months in the final
6 compensation calculation is at least sixty (60) months; or

7 (e) For a member who begins participating on or after September 1, 2008, but
8 prior to January 1, 2014, who is employed in a hazardous position as provided
9 in KRS 78.5520, the creditable compensation of the member during the three
10 (3) complete fiscal years he or she was paid at the highest average monthly
11 rate divided by three (3). Each fiscal year used to determine final
12 compensation must contain twelve (12) months of service credit. If the
13 member does not have three (3) complete fiscal years that each contain twelve
14 (12) months of service credit, then one (1) or more additional fiscal years,
15 which may contain less than twelve (12) months of service credit, shall be
16 added until the number of months in the final compensation calculation is at
17 least thirty-six (36) months;

18 (15) "Final rate of pay" means the actual rate upon which earnings of an employee were
19 calculated during the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the
20 member's effective retirement date, and shall include employee contributions
21 picked up after August 1, 1982, pursuant to KRS 78.610(4). The rate shall be
22 certified to the system by the employer and the following equivalents shall be used
23 to convert the rate to an annual rate: two thousand eighty (2,080) hours for eight (8)
24 hour workdays, one thousand nine hundred fifty (1,950) hours for seven and one-
25 half (7.5) hour workdays, two hundred sixty (260) days, fifty-two (52) weeks,
26 twelve (12) months, one (1) year;

27 (16) "Retirement allowance" means the retirement payments to which a member is

1 entitled;

2 (17) "Actuarial equivalent" means a benefit of equal value when computed upon the
3 basis of the actuarial tables adopted by the board. In cases of disability retirement,
4 the options authorized by KRS 61.635 shall be computed by adding ten (10) years
5 to the age of the member, unless the member has chosen the Social Security
6 adjustment option as provided for in KRS 61.635(8), in which case the member's
7 actual age shall be used. For members who begin participating in the system prior
8 to January 1, 2014, no disability retirement option shall be less than the same option
9 computed under early retirement;

10 (18) "Normal retirement date", unless otherwise provided in KRS 78.510 to 78.852,
11 means:

12 (a) For a member with service in a nonhazardous position, the sixty-fifth birthday
13 of a member;
14 (b) For a member with service in a hazardous position who begins participating
15 before September 1, 2008, the first day of the month following a member's
16 fifty-fifth birthday; or
17 (c) For a member with service in a hazardous position who begins participating
18 on or after September 1, 2008, the first day of the month following a
19 member's sixtieth birthday;

20 (19) "Fiscal year" of the system means the twelve (12) months from July 1 through the
21 following June 30, which shall also be the plan year. The "fiscal year" shall be the
22 limitation year used to determine contribution and benefits limits as set out in 26
23 U.S.C. sec. 415;

24 (20) "Agency reporting official" means the person designated by the participating
25 employer who shall be responsible for forwarding all employer and employee
26 contributions and a record of the contributions to the system and for performing
27 other administrative duties pursuant to KRS 78.510 to 78.852;

1 (21) "Regular full-time positions," as used in subsection (6) of this section, shall mean
2 all positions that average one hundred (100) or more hours per month, determined
3 by using the number of hours actually worked in a calendar or fiscal year, or eighty
4 (80) or more hours per month in the case of noncertified employees of school
5 boards, determined by using the number of hours actually worked in a calendar or
6 school year, unless otherwise specified, except:

7 (a) Seasonal positions, which although temporary in duration, are positions which
8 coincide in duration with a particular season or seasons of the year and that
9 may recur regularly from year to year, in which case the period of time shall
10 not exceed nine (9) months, except for employees of school boards, in which
11 case the period of time shall not exceed six (6) months;

12 (b) Emergency positions which are positions utilized by the employer during:

13 1. An emergency as determined by the employer for a period not
14 exceeding thirty (30) working days and are nonrenewable; or

15 2. A state of emergency declared by the President of the United States or
16 the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky that are created or
17 filled specifically for addressing the employer's needs during and as a
18 result of the declared emergency;

19 (c) Temporary positions that are positions of employment with a participating
20 agency for a period of time not to exceed twelve (12) months and not
21 renewable;

22 (d) Probationary positions which are positions of employment with a participating
23 employer that do not exceed twelve (12) months and that are used uniformly
24 by the participating agency on new employees who would otherwise be
25 eligible for participation in the system. Probationary positions shall not be
26 renewable by the participating employer for the same employee, unless the
27 employee has not been employed with the participating employer for a period

1 of at least twelve (12) months; or

2 (e) Part-time positions that are positions that may be permanent in duration, but

3 that require less than a calendar or fiscal year average of one hundred (100)

4 hours of work per month, determined by using the number of months actually

5 worked within a calendar or fiscal year, in the performance of duty, except in

6 case of noncertified employees of school boards, the school term average shall

7 be eighty (80) hours of work per month, determined by using the number of

8 months actually worked in a calendar or school year, in the performance of

9 duty;

10 (22) "Alternate participation plan" means a method of participation in the system as

11 provided for by KRS 78.530(3);

12 (23) "Retired member" means any former member receiving a retirement allowance or

13 any former member who has on file at the retirement office the necessary

14 documents for retirement benefits and is no longer contributing to the system;

15 (24) "Current rate of pay" means the member's actual hourly, daily, weekly, biweekly,

16 monthly, or yearly rate of pay converted to an annual rate as defined in final rate of

17 pay. The rate shall be certified by the employer;

18 (25) "Beneficiary" means the person, persons, estate, trust, or trustee designated by the

19 member in accordance with KRS 61.542 or 61.705 to receive any available benefits

20 in the event of the member's death. As used in KRS 78.5536, beneficiary shall not

21 mean an estate, trust, or trustee;

22 (26) "Recipient" means the retired member, the person or persons designated as

23 beneficiary by the member and drawing a retirement allowance as a result of the

24 member's death, or a dependent child drawing a retirement allowance. An alternate

25 payee of a qualified domestic relations order shall not be considered a recipient,

26 except for purposes of KRS 61.623;

27 (27) "Person" means a natural person;

- 1 (28) "School term or year" means the twelve (12) months from July 1 through the
- 2 following June 30;
- 3 (29) "Retirement office" means the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority office building
- 4 in Frankfort, unless otherwise designated by the Kentucky Public Pensions
- 5 Authority;
- 6 (30) "Vested" for purposes of determining eligibility for purchasing service credit under
- 7 KRS 61.552 means the employee has at least forty-eight (48) months of service if
- 8 age sixty-five (65) or older or at least sixty (60) months of service if under the age
- 9 of sixty-five (65). For purposes of this subsection, "service" means service in the
- 10 systems administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems and County Employees
- 11 Retirement System;
- 12 (31) "Participating" means an employee is currently earning service credit in the system
- 13 as provided in KRS 78.615;
- 14 (32) "Month" means a calendar month;
- 15 (33) "Membership date" means the date upon which the member began participating in
- 16 the system as provided in KRS 78.615;
- 17 (34) "Participant" means a member, as defined by subsection (8) of this section, or a
- 18 retired member, as defined by subsection (23) of this section;
- 19 (35) "Qualified domestic relations order" means any judgment, decree, or order,
- 20 including approval of a property settlement agreement, that:
- 21 (a) Is issued by a court or administrative agency; and
- 22 (b) Relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital
- 23 property rights to an alternate payee;
- 24 (36) "Alternate payee" means a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a
- 25 participant, who is designated to be paid retirement benefits in a qualified domestic
- 26 relations order;
- 27 (37) "Accumulated employer credit" means the employer pay credit deposited to the

1 member's account and interest credited on such amounts as provided by KRS
2 78.5512 and 78.5516;

3 (38) "Accumulated account balance" means:
4 (a) For members who began participating in the system prior to January 1, 2014,
5 the member's accumulated contributions; or
6 (b) For members who began participating in the system on or after January 1,
7 2014, in the hybrid cash balance plan as provided by KRS 78.5512 and
8 78.5516, the combined sum of the member's accumulated contributions and
9 the member's accumulated employer credit;

10 (39) "Volunteer" means an individual who:
11 (a) Freely and without pressure or coercion performs hours of service for an
12 employer participating in one (1) of the systems administered by Kentucky
13 Retirement Systems or the County Employees Retirement System without
14 receipt of compensation for services rendered, except for reimbursement of
15 actual expenses, payment of a nominal fee to offset the costs of performing
16 the voluntary services, or both; and
17 (b) If a retired member, does not become an employee, leased employee, or
18 independent contractor of the employer for which he or she is performing
19 volunteer services for a period of at least twelve (12) months following the
20 retired member's most recent retirement date;

21 (40) "Nominal fee" means compensation earned for services as a volunteer that does not
22 exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) per month with each participating employer.
23 Compensation earned for services as a volunteer from more than one (1)
24 participating employer during a month shall not be aggregated to determine whether
25 the compensation exceeds the five hundred dollars (\$500) per month maximum
26 provided by this subsection;

27 (41) "Nonhazardous position" means a position that does not meet the requirements of

1 KRS 78.5520 or has not been approved by the board as a hazardous position;

2 (42) "Hazardous position" means a position that meets the requirements of KRS 78.5520
3 and has been approved by the board as hazardous;

4 (43) "Level-percentage-of-payroll amortization method" means a method of determining
5 the annual amortization payment on the unfunded actuarial accrued liability as
6 expressed as a percentage of payroll over a set period of years. Under this method,
7 the percentage of payroll shall be projected to remain constant for all years
8 remaining in the set period and the unfunded actuarially accrued liability shall be
9 projected to be fully amortized at the conclusion of the set period;

10 (44) "Increment" means twelve (12) months of service credit which are purchased. The
11 twelve (12) months need not be consecutive. The final increment may be less than
12 twelve (12) months;

13 (45) "Last day of paid employment" means the last date employer and employee
14 contributions are required to be reported in accordance with KRS 16.543, 61.543, or
15 78.615 to the retirement office in order for the employee to receive current service
16 credit for the month. Last day of paid employment does not mean a date the
17 employee receives payment for accrued leave, whether by lump sum or otherwise,
18 if that date occurs twenty-four (24) or more months after previous contributions;

19 (46) "Objective medical evidence" means reports of examinations or treatments; medical
20 signs which are anatomical, physiological, or psychological abnormalities that can
21 be observed; psychiatric signs which are medically demonstrable phenomena
22 indicating specific abnormalities of behavior, affect, thought, memory, orientation,
23 or contact with reality; or laboratory findings which are anatomical, physiological,
24 or psychological phenomena that can be shown by medically acceptable laboratory
25 diagnostic techniques, including but not limited to chemical tests,
26 electrocardiograms, electroencephalograms, X-rays, and psychological tests;

27 (47) "Hazardous disability" as used in KRS 78.510 to 78.852 means a disability which

1 results in an employee's total incapacity to continue as an employee in a hazardous
2 position, but the employee is not necessarily deemed to be totally and permanently
3 disabled to engage in other occupations for remuneration or profit;

4 (48) "Act in line of duty" means, for employees in hazardous positions under KRS
5 78.5520:

6 (a) A single act occurring which was required in the performance of the principal
7 duties of the hazardous position as defined by the job description; or

8 (b) A single act of violence committed against the employee that is found to be
9 related to his or her job duties, whether or not it occurs at his or her job site;

10 (49) "Dependent child" means a child in the womb and a natural or legally adopted child
11 of the member who has neither attained age eighteen (18) nor married or who is an
12 unmarried full-time student who has not attained age twenty-two (22). Solely in the
13 case of a member who dies as a direct result of an act in line of duty as defined in
14 this section, dies as a result of a duty-related injury as defined in KRS 61.621,
15 becomes totally and permanently disabled as a direct result of an act in the line of
16 duty as defined in this section, or becomes disabled as a result of a duty-related
17 injury as defined in KRS 61.621 and is eligible for the benefits provided by KRS
18 61.621(5)(a), "dependent child" also means a naturally or legally adopted disabled
19 child of the member, regardless of the child's age, if the child has been determined
20 to be eligible for federal Social Security disability benefits or is being claimed as a
21 qualifying child for tax purposes due to the child's total and permanent disability;

22 (50) "Normal retirement age" means the age at which the member meets the
23 requirements for his or her normal retirement date as provided by subsection (18) of
24 this section;

25 (51) "Disability retirement date" means the first day of the month following the last day
26 of paid employment;

27 (52) "Monthly average pay" means:

1 (a) In the case of a member who dies as a direct result of an act in line of duty as
2 defined in KRS 16.505 or who dies as a result of a duty-related injury as
3 defined in KRS 61.621, the higher of the member's monthly final rate of pay
4 or the average monthly creditable compensation earned by the deceased
5 member during his or her last twelve (12) months of employment; or
6 (b) In the case where a member becomes totally and permanently disabled as a
7 direct result of an act in line of duty as defined in KRS 16.505 or becomes
8 disabled as a result of a duty-related injury as defined in KRS 61.621 and is
9 eligible for the benefits provided by KRS 61.621(5)(a), the higher of the
10 member's monthly final rate of pay or the average monthly creditable
11 compensation earned by the disabled member during his or her last twelve
12 (12) months of employment prior to the date the act in line of duty or duty-
13 related injury occurred;

14 (53) "Authority" means the Kentucky Public Pensions Authority as provided by KRS
15 61.505;

16 (54) "Executive director" means the executive director of the Kentucky Public Pensions
17 Authority; and

18 (55) "Gainful employment" means work in any capacity that is or may be performed
19 with regularity and is or may be usually done for pay, whether pay is received or
20 not received, including seasonal, volunteer, part-time, and on-call work.

21 ➔Section 3. KRS 156.095 is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) (a) The Kentucky Department of Education shall establish, direct, and maintain a
23 statewide program of professional development to improve instruction in the
24 public schools.

25 (b) ~~{By August 1, 2025, }~~The department shall create a four (4) year recurring
26 professional development training schedule that includes all professional
27 development for certified personnel required by subsection (2) of this section

1 and federal law.

2 (c) Each local school district shall implement the professional development
3 training schedule created by the department.

4 (2) All certified school district employees~~and public charter school employees~~ shall
5 complete at least one (1) hour of each of the following trainings within twelve (12)
6 months of initial hire and at least once every four (4) years thereafter:

7 (a) How to respond to an active shooter situation training prepared by the
8 Department of Criminal Justice Training in collaboration with the department,
9 the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, and the Center for School Safety;

10 (b) Child abuse and neglect prevention, recognition, and reporting training from
11 the list of trainings approved by the department in accordance with subsection
12 (7) of this section;

13 (c) 1. High-quality, evidence-based suicide prevention training, including risk
14 factors, warning signs, protective factors, response procedures, referral,
15 postvention, and the recognition of signs and symptoms of possible
16 mental illness.
17 2. As used in this paragraph, "postvention" means a series of planned
18 supports and interventions with persons affected by a suicide for the
19 purpose of facilitating the grieving or adjustment process, stabilizing the
20 environment, reducing the risk of negative behaviors, and limiting the
21 risk of further suicides through contagion; and
22 (d) Self-study review of seizure disorder materials.

23 (3) (a) Each local school district superintendent shall appoint a certified school
24 employee to fulfill the role and responsibilities of a professional development
25 coordinator who shall disseminate professional development information to
26 schools and personnel. Upon request by a school council or any employees of
27 the district, the coordinator shall provide technical assistance to the council or

the personnel that may include assisting with needs assessments, analyzing school data, planning and evaluation assistance, organizing districtwide programs requested by school councils or groups of teachers, or other coordination activities.

5 (b) The manner of appointment, qualifications, and other duties of the
6 professional development coordinator shall be established by the local board
7 of education.

8 (c) The local district professional development coordinator may participate in the
9 Kentucky Department of Education annual training program for local school
10 district professional development coordinators. The training program may
11 include but not be limited to the demonstration of various approaches to needs
12 assessment and planning; strategies for implementing long-term, school-based
13 professional development; strategies for strengthening teachers' roles in the
14 planning, development, and evaluation of professional development; and
15 demonstrations of model professional development programs. The training
16 shall include information about teacher learning opportunities relating to the
17 core content standards. The department shall regularly collect and distribute
18 this information.

19 (4) The department shall provide or facilitate optional, professional development
20 programs for certified personnel throughout the Commonwealth that are based on
21 the statewide needs of teachers, administrators, and other education personnel.
22 Programs may include classified staff and parents when appropriate. Programs
23 offered or facilitated by the department shall be at locations and times convenient to
24 local school personnel and shall be made accessible through the use of technology
25 when appropriate. They shall include programs that: address the goals for Kentucky
26 schools as stated in KRS 158.6451, including reducing the achievement gaps as
27 determined by an equity analysis of the disaggregated student performance data

1 from the state assessment program developed under KRS 158.6453; engage
2 educators in effective learning processes and foster collegiality and collaboration;
3 and provide support for staff to incorporate newly acquired skills into their work
4 through practicing the skills, gathering information about the results, and reflecting
5 on their efforts. Professional development programs shall be made available to
6 teachers based on their needs which shall include but not be limited to the following
7 areas:

- 8 (a) Strategies to reduce the achievement gaps among various groups of students
9 and to provide continuous progress;
- 10 (b) Curriculum content and methods of instruction for each content area,
11 including differentiated instruction;
- 12 (c) School-based decision making;
- 13 (d) Assessment literacy;
- 14 (e) Integration of performance-based student assessment into daily classroom
15 instruction;
- 16 (f) Nongraded primary programs;
- 17 (g) Research-based instructional practices;
- 18 (h) Instructional uses of technology;
- 19 (i) Curriculum design to serve the needs of students with diverse learning styles
20 and skills and of students of diverse cultures;
- 21 (j) Instruction in reading, including phonics, phonemic awareness,
22 comprehension, fluency, and vocabulary;
- 23 (k) Educational leadership; and
- 24 (l) Strategies to incorporate character education throughout the curriculum.

25 (5) The department shall assist school personnel in assessing the impact of professional
26 development on their instructional practices and student learning.

27 (6) (a) Upon the request of a school district or school council, the department shall

1 assist with the development of long-term school and district improvement
2 plans that include multiple strategies for professional development based on
3 the assessment of needs at the school level.

4 (b) Professional development strategies may include but are not limited to
5 participation in subject matter academies, teacher networks, training institutes,
6 workshops, seminars, and study groups; collegial planning; action research;
7 mentoring programs; appropriate university courses; and other forms of
8 professional development.

9 (c) In planning the use of the four (4) days for professional development under
10 KRS 158.070, school councils and districts shall give priority to programs that
11 increase teachers' understanding of curriculum content and methods of
12 instruction appropriate for each content area based on individual school plans.
13 The district may use up to one (1) day to provide district-wide training and
14 training that is mandated by state or federal law. Only those employees
15 identified in the mandate or affected by the mandate shall be required to
16 attend the training.

17 (d) State funds allocated for professional development shall be used to support
18 professional development initiatives that are consistent with local school
19 improvement and professional development plans and teachers' individual
20 growth plans. The funds may be used throughout the year for all staff,
21 including classified and certified staff and parents on school councils or
22 committees. A portion of the funds allocated to each school council under
23 KRS 160.345 may be used to prepare or enhance the teachers' knowledge and
24 teaching practices related to the content and subject matter that are required
25 for their specific classroom assignments.

26 (7) (a) The department shall develop and maintain a list of approved comprehensive
27 evidence-informed trainings on child abuse and neglect prevention,

1 recognition, and reporting that encompass child physical, sexual, and
2 emotional abuse and neglect.

3 (b) The trainings shall be web-based or in-person and cover, at a minimum, the
4 following topics:

5 1. Recognizing child physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect;

6 2. Reporting suspected child abuse and neglect in Kentucky as required by
7 KRS 620.030 and the appropriate documentation;

8 3. Responding to the child; and

9 4. Understanding the response of child protective services.

10 (c) The trainings shall include a questionnaire or other basic assessment tool upon
11 completion to document basic knowledge of training components.

12 (d) Each local board of education shall adopt one (1) or more trainings from the
13 list approved by the department to be implemented by schools.

14 (8) The department shall establish an electronic consumer bulletin board that posts
15 information regarding professional development providers and programs as a
16 service to school district central office personnel, school councils, teachers, and
17 administrators. Participation on the electronic consumer bulletin board shall be
18 voluntary for professional development providers or vendors, but shall include all
19 programs sponsored by the department. Participants shall provide the following
20 information: program title; name of provider or vendor; qualifications of the
21 presenters or instructors; objectives of the program; program length; services
22 provided, including follow-up support; costs for participation and costs of
23 materials; names of previous users of the program, addresses, and telephone
24 numbers; and arrangements required. Posting information on the bulletin board by
25 the department shall not be viewed as an endorsement of the quality of any specific
26 provider or program.

27 (9) The department shall provide voluntary training to address the characteristics and

1 instructional needs of students at risk of school failure and most likely to drop out
2 of school. The training shall be developed to meet the specific needs of all certified
3 and classified personnel depending on their relationship with these students. The
4 training for instructional personnel shall be designed to provide and enhance skills
5 of personnel to:

- 6 (a) Identify at-risk students early in elementary schools as well as at-risk and
7 potential dropouts in the middle and high schools;
- 8 (b) Plan specific instructional strategies to teach at-risk students;
- 9 (c) Improve the academic achievement of students at risk of school failure by
10 providing individualized and extra instructional support to increase
11 expectations for targeted students;
- 12 (d) Involve parents as partners in ways to help their children and to improve their
13 children's academic progress; and
- 14 (e) Significantly reduce the dropout rate of all students.

15 (10) The department shall establish teacher academies to the extent funding is available
16 in cooperation with postsecondary education institutions for elementary, middle
17 school, and high school faculty in core disciplines, utilizing facilities and faculty
18 from universities and colleges, local school districts, and other appropriate agencies
19 throughout the state. Priority for participation shall be given to those teachers who
20 are teaching core discipline courses for which they do not have a major or minor or
21 the equivalent. Participation of teachers shall be voluntary.

22 (11) The department shall annually provide to the oversight council established in KRS
23 15A.063, the information received from local schools pursuant to KRS 158.449.

24 ➔Section 4. KRS 157.063 is amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The General Assembly hereby finds and declares that:

26 (a) During the first five (5) years of life, children experience rapid learning and
27 development that have effects that endure their lifetimes;

1 (b) A key milestone in children's development is their transition into and
2 readiness for kindergarten;
3 (c) High quality early childhood literacy programs can significantly improve a
4 child's readiness for kindergarten and future academic success;
5 (d) Children in Kentucky would benefit from access to varied and effective early
6 literacy services; and
7 (e) Developing new and innovative services for the children of the
8 Commonwealth can expand access to early literacy services and improve
9 kindergarten readiness.

10 (2) As used in this section:
11 (a) "Child-care center" has the same meaning as in KRS 199.894;
12 (b) "Contractor" means the educational technology provider selected pursuant to
13 subsection (4) of this section;
14 (c) "Department" means the Kentucky Department of Education; and
15 (d) "Eligible child" means a child who is four (4) or five (5) years old and is not
16 currently enrolled in kindergarten in a public school district, but is eligible to
17 enroll during the following school year.

18 (3) The Adaptive Kindergarten Readiness Pilot Project is hereby established to provide
19 preschool children with access to educational technology programs that use family
20 engagement to improve kindergarten readiness. The pilot project shall:
21 (a) During the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years, provide a cohort of
22 eligible children during each school year with access to an educational
23 technology program that:
24 1. Utilizes family engagement to deliver age-appropriate instruction in
25 reading that may be implemented in homes or in child-care centers;
26 2. Offers optional instruction in mathematics and science;
27 3. Aligns with relevant state standards for preschool under KRS 157.3175;

- 1 4. Assists with the objectives of the Head Start Act, 42 U.S.C. sec. 9801 et
2 seq.;
- 3 5. Assists children with disabilities in preparing for kindergarten; and
- 4 6. Meets the benchmarks for evidence-based programs established by the
5 United States Department of Education;
- 6 (b) Operate under the oversight of the Kentucky Department of Education;
- 7 (c) Solicit families to encourage their eligible child's participation in the pilot
8 project through public information campaigns, outreach programs, and
9 referrals from other educational entities that are partially focused on
10 communities and areas of the state encountering persistent poverty;
- 11 (d) Reserve forty percent (40%) of a cohort's membership for eligible students
12 with a household income of no more than two hundred percent (200%) of the
13 federal poverty level. However, if a seat reserved under this paragraph
14 remains vacant for more than two (2) months, the seat in that cohort may be
15 given to any eligible child. The pilot project shall enroll eligible children as
16 students in both the reserved and unreserved membership in the order the
17 completed applications were submitted. The maximum enrollment for each
18 cohort shall be established by the department and provider based on the funds
19 available;
- 20 (e) Use:
 - 21 1. A multisensory reading tutoring program; and
 - 22 2. A validated adaptive reading test that does not require the presence of
23 trained adults to administer and that has been demonstrated as an
24 accurate indicator of a child's reading readiness; and
- 25 (f) As needed and at no cost for the student's family, for the duration of the
26 student's participation in the pilot project, provide a student with a household
27 income of no more than four hundred percent (400%) of the federal poverty

1 level with:

1. A computer or tablet; and
2. Access to internet service.

4 (4) The Kentucky Department of Education shall select a provider to implement the
5 pilot project under the department's oversight. In evaluating provider applicants, the
6 department shall require an applicant to have:

23 (5) The selected provider shall:

24 (a) Develop a recruitment plan to solicit families to participate in the pilot
25 project;
26 (b) Implement the pilot project in compliance with subsection (3) of this section;
27 (c) Provide administrative and technical support to students, families, and any

1 other involved education professionals for the installation and operation of the
2 instructional software;

3 (d) Seek the advice and expertise of local stakeholders, such as public and private
4 early childhood education professionals, the department, local school board
5 members, kindergarten teachers, and parents, on the implementation of the
6 pilot project in areas such as:

7 1. Soliciting families to participate in the pilot project;

8 2. Providing training to families and education professionals; and

9 3. Motivating families to regularly use the instructional software; and

10 (e) At the conclusion of each school year, report any data required by the
11 department to conduct an evaluation of the pilot project's effectiveness.

12 (6) By December 1, 2025, the department shall submit a report to the Legislative
13 Research Commission for referral to the appropriate Interim Joint Committee on
14 Education, that contains the following:

15 (a) The extent to which the pilot project is accomplishing the objectives identified
16 in this section;

17 (b) The number of families:

18 1. Participating in the project;

19 2. Who have received technology devices or internet service in the project;
20 and

21 3. Who have household incomes of no more than two hundred percent
22 (200%) of the federal poverty level or who reside in areas of persistent
23 poverty;

24 (c) The number of private and public educational entities the provider has
25 partnered with during the pilot project;

26 (d) The frequency of use of the instructional software;

27 (e) Obstacles encountered with software usage, hardware, internet access, or

1 providing technical assistance; and

2 (f) Student performance on any kindergarten entry or exit assessments conducted
3 by school districts[~~or public charter schools~~] that compare students have
4 participated in the project and students who have not.

5 (7) The Kentucky Department of Education shall implement this section to the extent
6 that federal funds are available.

7 → Section 5. KRS 158.038 is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) {Beginning August 1, 2020, }Any student identification badge issued to a student in
9 grades six (6) through twelve (12) by a public school shall contain the contact
10 information for:

11 (a) A national domestic violence hotline;

12 (b) A national sexual assault hotline; and

13 (c) A national suicide prevention hotline.

14 (2) ~~The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall apply to public charter~~
15 schools as a health and safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).

16 (3) By July 20, 2020,]The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall publish
17 recommendations for at least one (1) national hotline accessible twenty-four (24)
18 hours a day, seven (7) days a week, and three hundred sixty-five (365) days a year
19 that specializes in each of the hotline categories required by subsection (1) of this
20 section.

21 →Section 6. KRS 158.039 is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall post on its website high-quality,
23 evidence-based suicide prevention awareness information, which shall include
24 information on recognizing the warning signs of a suicide crisis. The website shall
25 include information related to suicide prevention training opportunities offered by
26 the cabinet or an agency recognized by the cabinet as a training provider.

27 (2) Every public school and public charter school shall provide two (2) high quality,

1 evidence-based suicide prevention awareness lessons each school year, the first by
2 September 15 and the second by January 15, either in person, by live streaming, or
3 via a video recording to all students in grades six (6) through twelve (12). Every
4 public school shall provide an opportunity for any student absent on the day the
5 high quality, evidence-based suicide prevention awareness lesson was initially
6 presented to receive the lesson at a later time. The information may be obtained
7 from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or from a commercially developed
8 suicide prevention training program.

9 ➔Section 7. KRS 158.041 is amended to read as follows:

10 Every public school shall prominently display the statewide child abuse hotline number
11 administered by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the National Human
12 Trafficking Hotline number administered by the United States Department of Health and
13 Human Services, and the Safe Haven Baby Boxes Crisis Line number administered by
14 the Safe Haven Baby Boxes national organization or any equivalent successor entity. {
15 The requirements of this section shall also apply to public charter schools as a health and
16 safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).}

17 ➔Section 8. KRS 158.157 is amended to read as follows:

18 {(1)} The superintendent of each local school district shall require the principal of each
19 school within the district to provide written notice of the provisions of KRS 531.125 to
20 students in grades four (4) and above in an age-appropriate manner and to parents or
21 guardians of all students within ten (10) days of the first instructional day of each school
22 year.

23 {(2)} The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall apply to public charter
24 schools as a health and safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).}

25 ➔Section 9. KRS 158.158 is amended to read as follows:

26 (1) {By August 1, 2025,} Local boards shall require each public school with
27 instructional spaces for students in grades six (6) through twelve (12) to display, in

1 a prominent location in each school building, a legible printed sign in English and
2 Spanish at least eight and one-half (8.5) inches by eleven (11) inches in size that
3 shall contain:

4 (a) An age-appropriate description of sexual extortion consistent with the
5 definition in KRS 531.125.

6 (b) Contact information for state or local law enforcement for reporting or
7 seeking assistance relating to sexual extortion;

8 (c) Contact information for federal law enforcement for reporting or seeking
9 assistance relating to sexual extortion;

10 (d) Contact information for a national suicide prevention hotline; and

11 (e) The Uniform Resource Locator (URL), a Quick Response (QR) code, or
12 similar resource to identify the website address for informational and support
13 resources regarding sexual extortion provided by the National Center for
14 Missing and Exploited Children or any federally funded successor entity.

15 (2) ~~The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall apply to public charter
16 schools as a health and safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).~~

17 (3) ~~By July 15, 2025,~~ The department shall publish recommendations for information
18 to be included consistent with subsection (1) of this section.

19 ➔Section 10. KRS 158.189 is amended to read as follows:

20 (1) As used in this section:

21 (a) "Biological sex" means the physical condition of being male or female, which
22 is determined by a person's chromosomes, and is identified at birth by a
23 person's anatomy; and

24 (b) "School" means a school under the control of a local board of education~~or a
25 charter school board of directors~~.

26 (2) The General Assembly finds that:

27 (a) School personnel have a duty to protect the dignity, health, welfare, and

7 ➔Section 11. KRS 158.196 is amended to read as follows:

8 (1) A public school~~or public charter school~~ shall provide instruction and instructional
9 materials that are aligned with the social studies academic standards adopted in
10 accordance with KRS 158.6453 and consistent with the following concepts:

11 (a) All individuals are created equal;

12 (b) Americans are entitled to equal protection under the law;

13 (c) An individual deserves to be treated on the basis of the individual's character;

14 (d) An individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, does not bear
15 responsibility for actions committed by other members of the same race or
16 sex;

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

23 (f) The future of America's success is dependent upon cooperation among all its
24 citizens:

25 (g) Personal agency and the understanding that, regardless of one's circumstances,
26 an American has the ability to succeed when he or she is given sufficient
27 opportunity and is committed to seizing that opportunity through hard work.

pursuit of education, and good citizenship; and

(h) The significant value of the American principles of equality, freedom, inalienable rights, respect for individual rights, liberty, and the consent of the governed.

5 (2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall be construed to restrict a public
6 school[or public charter school] from providing instruction or using instructional
7 materials that include:

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

(b) The discussion of controversial aspects of history; or

(c) The instruction and instructional materials on the historical oppression of a particular group of people.

13 (3) (a) Notwithstanding the every six (6) year schedule set forth in KRS
14 158.6453(2)(a),~~{ no later than July 1, 2023,}~~ the Kentucky Department of
15 Education shall incorporate fundamental American documents and speeches
16 into the grade-level appropriate middle and high school social studies
17 academic standards and align corresponding assessments, including but not
18 limited to:

1. The Mayflower Compact;
2. The Declaration of Independence;
3. The Constitution of the United States;
4. The Federalist No. 1 (Alexander Hamilton);
5. The Federalist Nos. 10 and 51 (James Madison);
6. The June 8, 1789, speech on amendments to the Constitution of the United States by James Madison;
7. The first ten (10) amendments to the Constitution of the United States, also known as the Bill of Rights;

- 1 8. The 1796 Farewell Address by George Washington;
- 2 9. The United States Supreme Court opinion in *Marbury v. Madison*, 5
- 3 U.S. 137 (1803);
- 4 10. The Monroe Doctrine by James Monroe;
- 5 11. What to the Slave is the Fourth of July? speech by Frederick Douglass;
- 6 12. The United States Supreme Court opinion in *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, 60
- 7 U.S. 393 (1857);
- 8 13. Final Emancipation Proclamation by Abraham Lincoln;
- 9 14. The Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln;
- 10 15. Declaration of Rights of the Women of the United States by Susan B.
- 11 Anthony, Matilda Joslyn Gage, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton;
- 12 16. The September 18, 1895, Atlanta Exposition Address by Booker T.
- 13 Washington;
- 14 17. Of Booker T. Washington and Others by W.E.B. Du Bois;
- 15 18. The United States Supreme Court opinion in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163
- 16 U.S. 537 (1896);
- 17 19. The August 31, 1910, New Nationalism speech by Theodore Roosevelt;
- 18 20. The January 11, 1944, State of the Union Address by Franklin D.
- 19 Roosevelt;
- 20 21. The United States Supreme Court opinions in *Brown v. Board of*
- 21 *Education of Topeka*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954) and *Brown v. Board of*
- 22 *Education of Topeka*, 349 U.S. 294 (1955);
- 23 22. Letter from Birmingham Jail by Martin Luther King, Jr.;
- 24 23. The August 28, 1963, I Have a Dream speech by Martin Luther King,
- 25 Jr.; and
- 26 24. A Time for Choosing by Ronald Reagan.

27 (b) This revision shall not delay or otherwise impact the existing schedule as set

1 forth in KRS 158.6453(2).

2 ➔Section 12. KRS 158.305 is amended to read as follows:

3 (1) As used in this section:

4 (a) "Aphasia" means a condition characterized by either partial or total loss of the
5 ability to communicate verbally or through written words. A person with
6 aphasia may have difficulty speaking, reading, writing, recognizing the names
7 of objects, or understanding what other people have said. The condition may
8 be temporary or permanent and does not include speech problems caused by
9 loss of muscle control;

10 (b) "Dyscalculia" means the inability to understand the meaning of numbers, the
11 basic operations of addition and subtraction, the complex operations of
12 multiplication and division, or to apply math principles to solve practical or
13 abstract problems;

14 (c) "Dysgraphia" means difficulty in automatically remembering and mastering
15 the sequence of muscle motor movements needed to accurately write letters or
16 numbers;

17 (d) "Dyslexia" has the same meaning as in KRS 158.307;

18 (e) "Enrichment program" means accelerated intervention within the school day
19 or outside of the school day or school calendar led by individuals most
20 qualified to provide the intervention that includes evidence-based reading
21 instructional programming related to reading instruction in the areas of
22 phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension, and
23 other instructional strategies aligned to reading and writing standards required
24 by KRS 158.6453 and outlined in administrative regulation promulgated by
25 the Kentucky Board of Education;

26 (f) "Evidence-based" has the same meaning as in 20 U.S.C. sec. 7801(21);

27 (g) "Phonemic awareness" has the same meaning as in KRS 158.307;

1 (h) "Reading diagnostic assessment" has the same meaning as in KRS 158.792;

2 (i) "Reading improvement plan" means an accelerated intervention plan for a

3 student in kindergarten through grade four (4) that is developed to increase a

4 student's rate of progress toward proficient performance in reading that is

5 identified as necessary based on the student's results on an approved reading

6 diagnostic assessment. This plan should be developed in collaboration and

7 accordance with any existing program services plan, individualized education

8 program, or Section 504 Plan unless the program services plan, individualized

9 education program, or Section 504 Plan already addresses improving reading;

10 (j) "Reading improvement team" means a team that develops and oversees the

11 progress of a reading improvement plan and includes:

12 1. The parent or guardian of the student that is the subject of the reading

13 improvement plan;

14 2. No less than one (1) regular education teacher of the student to provide

15 information about the general curriculum for same-aged peers;

16 3. A representative of the local education agency who is knowledgeable

17 about the reading curriculum and the availability of the evidence-based

18 literacy resources of the local education agency; and

19 4. Any specialized certified school employees for students receiving

20 language instruction educational programming or special education

21 services; and

22 (k) "Universal screener" means a process of providing a brief assessment to all

23 students within a grade level to assess the students' performance on the

24 essential components of reading.

25 (2) Notwithstanding any other statute or administrative regulation to the contrary, the

26 Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations to further

27 define a multilevel system of supports for district-wide use of a system for students

1 in kindergarten through grade three (3), that includes a tiered continuum of
2 interventions with varying levels of intensity and duration and which connects
3 general, compensatory, and special education programs to provide interventions
4 implemented with fidelity to evidence-based research and matched to individual
5 student strengths and needs. At a minimum, evidence of implementation shall be
6 submitted by the district to the department by October 1 of each year and shall
7 include but not be limited to the activities required under KRS 158.649.

8 (3) The department shall provide technical assistance and training, if requested by a
9 local district, to assist in the implementation of the district-wide, multitiered system
10 of supports as a means to identify and assist any student experiencing difficulty in
11 reading, writing, mathematics, or behavior and to determine appropriate
12 instructional modifications needed by advanced learners to make continuous
13 progress.

14 (4) The technical assistance and training shall be designed to improve:

15 (a) The use of specific screening processes and programs to identify student
16 strengths and needs;

17 (b) The use of screening data for designing instructional interventions;

18 (c) The use of multisensory instructional strategies and other interventions
19 validated for effectiveness by evidence-based research;

20 (d) Progress monitoring of student performance; and

21 (e) Accelerated, intensive, direct instruction that addresses students' individual
22 differences, including advanced learners, and enables students that are
23 experiencing difficulty to catch up with typically performing peers.

24 (5) (a) Each superintendent~~or public charter school board of directors~~ shall select:

25 1. At least one (1) universal screener for reading that is determined by the
26 department to be reliable and valid to be administered to all students in
27 kindergarten through grade three (3); and

1 2. At least one (1) reading diagnostic assessment for reading that is
2 determined by the department to be reliable and valid to be administered
3 as part of a multitiered system of supports for students in kindergarten
4 through grade three (3).

5 (b) Notwithstanding KRS 158.6453(19) and 160.345, each superintendent~~or~~
6 ~~public charter school board~~ shall adopt a common comprehensive reading
7 program that is determined by the department to be reliable, valid, and aligned
8 to reading and writing standards required by KRS 158.6453 and outlined in
9 administrative regulation promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Education
10 for kindergarten through grade three (3) for all schools or a subset of schools,
11 with consultation of all affected elementary school councils.

12 (c) All teachers of students in kindergarten through grade three (3)~~, including~~
13 ~~public charter school teachers~~, shall be trained on any reading diagnostic
14 assessment and universal screener selected by the superintendent~~or public~~
15 ~~charter school board~~ prior to administration of the assessment. The training
16 shall address:

17 1. How to properly administer the reading diagnostic assessment;
18 2. How to interpret the results of the reading diagnostic assessment to
19 identify students needing interventions;
20 3. How to use the assessment results to design instruction and
21 interventions;
22 4. The use of the assessment to monitor the progress of student
23 performance; and
24 5. The use of accelerated, intensive, and direct instruction that addresses
25 students' individual differences and enables students to achieve
26 proficiency in reading, including but not limited to daily, one-on-one
27 instruction.

- 1 (6) A universal screener determined by the department to be reliable and valid shall be:
 - 2 (a) Given in the first forty-five (45) days of the school year for all kindergarten
 - 3 students at a public school~~or public charter school};~~
 - 4 (b) Given in the first thirty (30) days of the school year for grades one (1) through
 - 5 three (3) at a public school~~or public charter school}; and~~
 - 6 (c) Given within the final fourteen (14) instructional days of the school year to all
 - 7 students in kindergarten and first grade at a public school~~or public charter~~
 - 8 school}.
- 9 (7) A reading improvement plan shall be developed and implemented by a reading
- 10 improvement team for any student in kindergarten through grade three (3) identified
- 11 as needing accelerated interventions to progress toward proficient performance in
- 12 reading. The reading improvement plan shall require:
 - 13 (a) Intensive intervention that includes effective instructional strategies and
 - 14 appropriate instructional materials necessary to help the student make
 - 15 accelerated progress toward proficient performance in reading and become
 - 16 ready for the next grade, including but not limited to daily, one-on-one
 - 17 instruction with students the most in need provided by certified teachers
 - 18 specifically trained to provide one-on-one instruction;
 - 19 (b) A school to provide a written quarterly progress report containing the
 - 20 information required by paragraph (a) of this subsection to a parent or
 - 21 guardian of any student subject to a reading improvement plan. The written
 - 22 quarterly progress report for the reading improvement plan may be included
 - 23 in the school's existing quarterly progress report; and
 - 24 (c) Individual placement decisions for children who are eligible for special
 - 25 education and related services to be determined by the appropriate admissions
 - 26 and release committee in accordance with administrative regulations
 - 27 promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Education.

- 1 (8) If a student's rate of progress toward proficient performance in reading needs
2 accelerated interventions as demonstrated by the results of an approved reading
3 diagnostic assessment, the local school district shall provide:
 - 4 (a) Enrichment programs through grade three (3) using evidence-based reading
5 instruction and other strategies;
 - 6 (b) Intensive instructional services, progress monitoring measures, and supports
7 to students through grade three (3); and
 - 8 (c) Parents and legal guardians of students identified for accelerated interventions
9 in reading in kindergarten through grade three (3) with a "Read at Home"
10 plan, including information on how to participate in regular parent-guided
11 home reading.
- 12 (9) (a) Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year:
 - 13 1. A kindergarten student who had a reading improvement plan for the
14 school year may remain in kindergarten for an additional school year if a
15 school determines that the student:
 - 16 a. Did not meet grade level benchmarks in reading while in
17 kindergarten as determined by the universal screener given in
18 accordance with subsection (6) of this section;
 - 19 b. Did not master the Kentucky reading academic standards for
20 kindergarten students based on assessments given in accordance
21 with KRS 158.6453(8); or
 - 22 c. Is not properly prepared to be successful in the first grade; and
 - 23 2. A first-grade student who had a reading improvement plan for the
24 school year shall remain in first grade for an additional school year if a
25 school determines that the student:
 - 26 a. Did not meet grade level benchmarks in reading while in first
27 grade as determined by the universal screener given in accordance

1 supports to students in grade four (4); and

2 (b) Written notification of the interventions and supports described in paragraph
3 (a) of this subsection to the parent or legal guardian of the student, including a
4 description of proposed interventions and supports to be provided.

5 (11) ~~By September 1, 2023,~~ If funds are appropriated, the department shall establish
6 required teacher academies or coaching models for teachers of students in
7 prekindergarten through grade three (3). The teacher academies or coaching models
8 shall be related to evidence-based practices in instruction, instructional materials,
9 and assessment in reading.

10 (12) The department shall develop and maintain a web-based resource providing
11 teachers access to:

12 (a) Information on the use of specific screening processes and programs to
13 identify student strengths and needs, including those for advanced learners;

14 (b) Current, evidence-based research and age-appropriate instructional tools that
15 may be used for substantial, steady improvement in:

16 1. Reading when a student is experiencing difficulty with phonemic
17 awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, general reading
18 comprehension, or reading in specific content areas, or is exhibiting
19 characteristics of dyslexia, aphasia, or other reading difficulties;

20 2. Writing when a student is experiencing difficulty with consistently
21 producing letters or numbers with accuracy or is exhibiting
22 characteristics of dysgraphia;

23 3. Mathematics when a student is experiencing difficulty with basic math
24 facts, calculations, or application through problem solving, or is
25 exhibiting characteristics of dyscalculia or other mathematical
26 difficulties; or

27 4. Behavior when a student is exhibiting behaviors that interfere with his

1 or her learning or the learning of other students; and

2 (c) Current, evidence-based research and age-appropriate instructional tools that
3 may be used for continuous progress of advanced learners.

4 (13) The department shall encourage districts to utilize both state and federal funds as
5 appropriate to implement a district-wide multitiered system of supports.

6 (14) The department is encouraged to coordinate technical assistance and training on
7 current best practice interventions with state postsecondary education institutions.

8 (15) The department shall collaborate with the statewide reading research center
9 established under KRS 164.0207, the Kentucky Center for Mathematics, the
10 Kentucky Center for Instructional Discipline, the Education Professional Standards
11 Board, the Council on Postsecondary Education, postsecondary teacher education
12 programs, and other agencies and organizations as deemed appropriate to ensure
13 that teachers are prepared to utilize evidence-based interventions in reading,
14 writing, mathematics, and behavior.

15 (16) In compliance with 20 U.S.C. sec. 1414(a)(1)(E), screening of a student to
16 determine appropriate instructional strategies for curriculum implementation shall
17 not be considered to be an evaluation for eligibility for special education and related
18 services and nothing in this section shall limit a school district from completing an
19 initial evaluation of a student suspected of having a disability.

20 ➔Section 13. KRS 158.4416 is amended to read as follows:

21 (1) For purposes of this section:

22 (a) "Direct services" means in-person or virtual services provided directly to a
23 student by a school counselor, including but not limited to individual
24 counseling, group counseling, and individual student planning, scheduling,
25 and registration;

26 (b) "Indirect services" means services provided on behalf of a student as a result
27 of interactions with others, including but not limited to consultation and

1 collaboration with parents, teachers, and other educators;

2 (c) "School counselor" means an individual who holds a valid school counselor
3 certificate issued in accordance with the administrative regulations of the 3

4 (d) "School psychologist" means an individual who holds a valid school
5 psychology certificate issued in accordance with the administrative regulations
6 of the Education Professional Standards Board;

7 (e) "School social worker" means an individual who holds a valid school social
8 work certificate issued in accordance with the administrative regulations of
9 the Education Professional Standards Board;

10 (f) "School-based mental health services provider" means a certified school
11 counselor, school psychologist, school social worker, or other qualified
12 mental health professional as defined in KRS 202A.011;

13 (g) "Trauma" means physical, emotional, or life-threatening harm; and

14 (h) "Trauma-informed approach" means incorporating principles of trauma
15 awareness and trauma-informed practices in a school in order to foster a safe,
16 stable, and understanding learning environment for all students and staff and
17 ensuring that all students are known well by at least one (1) adult in the school
18 setting.

19 (2) The General Assembly recognizes that all schools must provide a place for students
20 to feel safe and supported to learn throughout the school day, and that any trauma a
21 student may have experienced can have a significant impact on the ability of a
22 student to learn. The General Assembly directs all public schools to adopt a trauma-
23 informed approach to education in order to better recognize, understand, and
24 address the learning needs of students impacted by trauma and to foster a learning
25 environment where all students, including those who have been traumatized, can be
26 safe, successful, and known well by at least one (1) adult in the school setting. [The
27 requirements of this subsection shall apply to public charter schools as a health and

1 safety requirement under KRS 160.1592(1).}

2 (3) (a) As funds and qualified personnel become available:

- 3 1. Each school district~~and each public charter school~~ shall employ at
4 least one (1) school counselor in each school with the goal of the school
5 counselor spending at least sixty percent (60%) or more of his or her
6 time providing direct services to students and no more than forty percent
7 (40%) of his or her time providing indirect services to students; and
- 8 2. It shall be the goal that each school district~~and each public charter~~
9 school~~shall~~ shall provide at least one (1) school counselor or school-based
10 mental health services provider who is employed by the school district
11 for every two hundred fifty (250) students, including but not limited to
12 the school counselor required in subparagraph 1. of this paragraph.

13 (b) A school counselor or school-based mental health services provider at each
14 school shall be the facilitator of a trauma-informed team to identify and assist
15 students whose learning, behavior, and relationships have been impacted by
16 trauma. The trauma-informed team may consist of school administrators,
17 school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, school-based
18 mental health services providers, community-based mental health services
19 providers hired by the district, family resource and youth services
20 coordinators, school nurses, school resource officers, and any other school or
21 district personnel.

22 (c) The trauma-informed team shall:

- 23 1. Provide assistance to school personnel to enable them to support
24 students whose learning, behavior, and relationships have been impacted
25 by trauma;
- 26 2. Identify ways to recognize and respond to mental health issues in all
27 students; and

3. Identify ways to build resiliency and wellness in all students.

(d) Each school counselor or school-based mental health services provider providing services pursuant to this section, and the trauma-informed team members described in paragraph (b) of this subsection, shall provide training, guidance, and assistance to other administrators, teachers, and staff on:

1. Recognizing symptoms of trauma in students;
2. Utilizing interventions and strategies to support the learning needs of those students; and
3. Implementing the plan for a trauma-informed approach as described in subsection (5) of this section.

(e) 1. School districts may employ or contract for the services of school-based mental health services providers to assist with the development and implementation of a trauma-informed approach and the development of a trauma-informed team pursuant to this subsection and to enhance or expand student mental health support services as funds and qualified personnel become available.

2. School-based mental health services providers may provide services through a collaboration between two (2) or more school districts or between school districts and educational cooperatives or any other public or private entities, including but not limited to local or regional mental health day treatment programs.

(f) No later than November 1 of each year, the local school district superintendent shall report to the department the number of school-based mental health service providers, the position held, placement in the district, certification or licensure held, the source of funding for each position, a summary of the job duties and work undertaken by each school-based mental health service provider, and the approximate percent of time devoted to each

1 duty over the course of the year.

2 (g) The department shall annually compile and maintain a list of school-based
3 mental health service providers by district which shall include the information
4 required in paragraph (f) of this subsection.

5 (h) No later than June 1 of each year, the department shall provide the
6 appropriate Interim Joint Committee on Education with the information
7 reported by local school district superintendents and compiled in accordance
8 with paragraph (g) of this subsection.

9 (4) The department shall make available a toolkit that includes guidance, strategies,
10 behavioral interventions, practices, and techniques to assist school districts ~~and~~
11 ~~public charter schools~~ in developing a trauma-informed approach in schools.

12 (5) Each local board of education ~~and board of a public charter school~~ shall develop a
13 plan for implementing a trauma-informed approach in its schools. The plan shall
14 include but not be limited to strategies for:

15 (a) Enhancing trauma awareness throughout the school community;

16 (b) Conducting an assessment of the school climate, including but not limited to
17 inclusiveness and respect for diversity;

18 (c) Developing trauma-informed discipline policies;

19 (d) Collaborating with the Department of Kentucky State Police, the local sheriff,
20 and the local chief of police to create procedures for notification of trauma-
21 exposed students; and

22 (e) Providing services and programs designed to reduce the negative impact of
23 trauma, support critical learning, and foster a positive and safe school
24 environment for every student.

25 (6) The trauma-informed approach plan developed in accordance with subsection (5) of
26 this section shall be reviewed and updated annually and submitted to the
27 department. The department shall annually provide a summary of the trauma-

1 informed approach strategies being used in districts to the board and the Legislative
2 Research Commission for referral to the appropriate Interim Joint Committee on
3 Education.

4 ➔Section 14. KRS 158.4433 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) As used in this section, "school mapping data" means mapping information
6 provided in an electronic or a digital format to assist first responders in responding
7 to emergencies at schools.

8 (2) (a) The General Assembly does hereby establish the School Mapping Data
9 Program to be administered by the Center for School Safety. The Center for
10 School Safety shall utilize available funds to develop school mapping data for
11 each public school[~~, public charter school~~], and any private school that
12 requests to participate in the program. The program shall be administered by
13 the Center for School Safety pursuant to this section, which may include
14 contracting for services pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Kentucky
15 Model Procurement Code in KRS Chapter 45A. The Center for School Safety
16 shall be responsible for ensuring that all funds received for and expended
17 related to the School Mapping Data Program are utilized for the purposes of
18 school mapping.

19 (b) The Center for School Safety shall provide the data developed by the program
20 to the state school security marshal, participating schools, participating
21 districts, and local law enforcement and public safety agencies for use in
22 response to emergencies and for conducting drills required under KRS
23 158.162(5). The school mapping data shall be excluded from the application
24 of KRS 61.870 to 61.884.

25 (c) The Center for School Safety shall apply for any federal grant funds that may
26 be used to accomplish the purposes of the program. The Center for School
27 Safety may also solicit private funds to support the program.

1 (3) The School Mapping Data Program shall establish a single verified source of
2 mapping data for each participating school campus in the state that is standardized,
3 accurate, and accessible to public safety agencies to ensure efficient response to any
4 emergency on a school campus. The school mapping data provided shall:
5 (a) Be compatible with software platforms used by local, county, state, and
6 federal public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the specific
7 school for which the data is provided without requiring such agencies to
8 purchase additional software or requiring a fee to view or access the data;
9 (b) Be compatible with security software platforms in use by the participating
10 school or district for which the data is provided without requiring the school
11 or district to purchase additional software or requiring a fee to view or access
12 the data;
13 (c) Be in a printable format and, if requested by a law enforcement or public
14 safety agency or participating school or district in addition to those described
15 in paragraph (a) of this subsection, be in a digital file format that can be
16 integrated into interactive mobile platforms in use;
17 (d) Be verified by the Center for School Safety for accuracy by a walk-through of
18 school buildings and grounds;
19 (e) Be oriented to true north;
20 (f) Include accurate floor plans overlaid on current, verified aerial imagery of
21 campus;
22 (g) Contain site-specific labeling that matches the structure of school buildings
23 that includes:
24 1. Room labels;
25 2. Hallway names or identifiers;
26 3. External door or stairwell numbers;
27 4. Locations of hazards;

- 1 5. Critical utility locations;
- 2 6. Key boxes;
- 3 7. Automated external defibrillators; and
- 4 8. Trauma kits;
- 5 (h) Contain site-specific labeling that matches the school grounds that includes:
 - 6 1. Parking areas;
 - 7 2. Athletic fields;
 - 8 3. Surrounding roads; and
 - 9 4. Neighboring properties;
- 10 (i) Be overlaid with a gridded coordinate system;
- 11 (j) Not be modified or updated independently without corresponding updates to
12 school mapping data within software platforms used by local, county, state,
13 and federal public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the
14 specific school; and
- 15 (k) Provide to public safety agencies and participating schools or districts the
16 school mapping data developed pursuant to the program perpetually and at no
17 cost to the public safety agencies or participating schools or districts.

- 18 (4) A participating school district or campus shall not be required to adopt new school
19 mapping data if, as of July 1, 2024, the school district or campus previously
20 implemented school mapping data with capabilities that meet the requirements of
21 subsection (3)(a) to (k) of this section.

22 ➔Section 15. KRS 158.8402 is amended to read as follows:

- 23 (1) Notwithstanding any other statute or administrative regulation to the contrary, the
24 Kentucky Board of Education shall promulgate administrative regulations in
25 accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to define and establish a multitiered system of
26 supports that shall include evidence-based mathematics instruction, intervention,
27 and instructional strategies for district-wide use for students in kindergarten through

1 grade three (3).

2 (2) By November 1, 2027, and each year thereafter, the department shall submit the
3 implementation status of the multitiered system of supports required pursuant to
4 subsection (1) of this section for all school districts to the Legislative Research
5 Commission for referral to the appropriate Interim Joint Committee on Education.

6 (3) The department shall provide technical assistance and training to local districts to
7 assist in the implementation of the district-wide, multitiered system of supports as a
8 means to identify and assist any student experiencing difficulty in mathematics.

9 (4) The technical assistance and training shall be designed to improve:

10 (a) The use of specific screening processes and diagnostic assessments to identify
11 student strengths and needs;

12 (b) The use of universal screening and diagnostic data for implementing
13 instruction and intervention, as needed;

14 (c) The use of valid and reliable evidence-based instructional strategies and
15 interventions for mathematics education;

16 (d) Progress monitoring of student performance; and

17 (e) Accelerated, intensive, direct instruction that addresses students' individual
18 differences, including advanced learners, and enables students that are
19 experiencing difficulty to catch up with typically performing peers.

20 (5) (a) ~~By January 1, 2026,]Each superintendent[or public charter school board of~~
21 ~~directors]~~ shall select:

22 1. At least one (1) universal screener for mathematics that is determined by
23 the department to be valid and reliable to be administered to all students
24 in kindergarten through grade three (3); and

25 2. At least one (1) diagnostic assessment for mathematics that is
26 determined by the department to be reliable and valid to be administered
27 as part of a multitiered system of supports for students in kindergarten

1 through grade three (3).

2 (b) Each superintendent~~or public charter school board of directors~~ shall adopt
3 an evidence-based curriculum along with high-quality instructional resources
4 for mathematics that is determined by the department to be reliable, valid, and
5 aligned to Kentucky academic standards for mathematics required by KRS
6 158.6453 for kindergarten through grade three (3).
7 (c) All teachers of students in kindergarten through grade three (3)~~, including
8 public charter school teachers,~~ shall be trained on any mathematics universal
9 screener and diagnostic assessment selected by the superintendent~~or public
10 charter school board~~ prior to administration of the assessment. The training
11 shall address:
12 1. How to properly administer the mathematics universal screener and
13 diagnostic assessment;
14 2. How to interpret the results of the mathematics universal screener and
15 diagnostic assessment to identify students needing interventions;
16 3. How to use the assessment results to design instruction and
17 interventions;
18 4. The use of the assessment to monitor the progress of student
19 performance; and
20 5. The use of accelerated, intensive, and direct instruction that addresses
21 students' individual differences and enables students to achieve
22 proficiency in mathematics, including but not limited to daily, one-on-
23 one instruction.
24 (6) Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, a universal screener determined by the
25 department to be valid and reliable shall be given in the first thirty (30) calendar
26 days of the school year to each student in kindergarten through grade three (3) at a
27 public school~~or public charter school~~.

- 1 (7) Those students determined to be at risk for not meeting grade-level benchmarks in
2 mathematics for kindergarten through grade three (3) based on the universal
3 screener shall be given a mathematics diagnostic assessment determined by the
4 department to be valid and reliable to identify the individual student deficits in
5 numeracy and other mathematical content and practices as listed in subsection (1)
6 of this section in the first forty-five (45) calendar days of the school year.
- 7 (8) A mathematics improvement plan shall be developed and implemented in the first
8 sixty (60) calendar days of the school year by a mathematics improvement team for
9 any student in kindergarten through grade three (3) identified as needing
10 accelerated interventions to progress toward proficient performance in mathematics.
11 The mathematics improvement plan shall require:
 - 12 (a) Intensive intervention that includes effective instructional strategies and high-
13 quality instructional resources necessary to help the student make accelerated
14 progress toward proficient performance in mathematics and become ready for
15 the next grade, including but not limited to daily, one-on-one instruction with
16 students the most in need provided by certified teachers specifically trained
17 and most qualified to provide one-on-one instruction in numeracy; and
 - 18 (b) Written quarterly progress reports provided by the school to a parent or
19 guardian of any student subject to a mathematics improvement plan. The
20 written quarterly progress report for the mathematics improvement plan may
21 be included in the school's existing quarterly student progress report.
- 22 (9) Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, if a student's rate of progress toward
23 proficient performance in mathematics needs accelerated interventions as
24 demonstrated by the results of an approved universal screener and mathematics
25 diagnostic assessment, the local school district shall provide:
 - 26 (a) Enrichment programs using evidence-based mathematics instruction and other
27 strategies;

1 ➔Section 16. KRS 158.843 is amended to read as follows:

2 (1) The Kentucky numeracy counts fund is hereby created for the purpose of training
3 and supporting teachers to improve the mathematics content and practices of
4 students in kindergarten through grade eight (8), as set forth in subsection (2) of this
5 section and KRS 158.8402(12). The fund shall consist of all moneys received from
6 state appropriations, gifts, grants, and federal funds for this purpose. The
7 department shall administer the fund.

8 (2) The department shall implement teacher professional learning academies related to
9 evidence-based practices in instruction, instructional materials, and assessment in
10 mathematics using moneys appropriated to or otherwise received by the Kentucky
11 numeracy counts fund.

12 (3) The department shall create a mathematics coaching program using moneys
13 appropriated to or otherwise received by the Kentucky numeracy counts fund. The
14 program shall:

15 (a) Use data coaches to improve mathematics instruction and intervention;

16 (b) Determine the effectiveness of intensive data-focused professional
17 development; and

18 (c) Provide expert support in mathematics instruction and intervention.

19 (4) (a) The department shall provide grants to local school districts~~and public
20 charter schools~~. The grant shall only be used to purchase approved high-
21 quality research and evidence-based curriculum aligned to kindergarten
22 through grade three (3) academic standards in mathematics and expenditures
23 for curriculum-based professional learning to implement new curriculum.

24 (b) To be eligible to receive a grant, a local school district~~or public charter
25 school~~ shall:

26 1. Submit an application in accordance with paragraph (c) of this
27 subsection; and

1 2. Agree to adopt a common comprehensive mathematics program that is
2 determined by the department to be reliable, valid, and aligned to
3 mathematics standards required by KRS 158.6453 and outlined in an
4 administrative regulation promulgated by the Kentucky Board of
5 Education.

6 (c) Local school districts shall submit applications that include a district-wide
7 plan[and public charter schools shall submit applications that include a
8 school plan] for implementation of mathematics curriculum that includes:
9 1. How the district[or public charter school] will implement the new
10 curriculum by school and by grade level; and
11 2. The timeline for the rollout of upgraded curriculum materials for core
12 instruction in classrooms.

13 (d) Available grant funding shall be distributed to eligible applicants based on a
14 rubric developed by the department. The rubric shall consider the information
15 provided in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection and
16 prioritize applications from local school districts[or public charter schools]:
17 1. In which more than fifty percent (50%) of the enrolled students scored
18 below the statewide average on the statewide assessments in
19 mathematics administered for the preceding school year;
20 2. With the greatest need for financial assistance; and
21 3. That propose comprehensive plans most likely to increase student
22 achievement in mathematics.

23 [(e) The department shall distribute the awarded grant money to a public charter
24 school authorizer, and the authorizer shall distribute one hundred percent
25 (100%) of the grant money to the charter school.]

26 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of KRS 45.229, unexpended funds in the Kentucky
27 numeracy counts fund shall not lapse but shall carry forward to the next fiscal year

1 and shall be used for the purposes established in this section.

2 (6) Any interest earned on moneys in the fund shall become part of the fund and shall
3 not lapse.

4 ➔Section 17. KRS 160.152 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) For purposes of this section, "Kentucky Educator Placement Service System" or
6 "system" means the online statewide job posting system operated by the Kentucky
7 Department of Education for vacancies at local school districts~~and public charter~~
8 ~~schools~~.

9 (2) The Kentucky Department of Education shall ensure that the Kentucky Educator
10 Placement Service System:
11 (a) Is accessible through the department's website;
12 (b) Includes a mechanism for local school districts~~and public charter schools~~ to
13 electronically submit job openings for posting on the system as provided in
14 subsection (4) of this section;
15 (c) Allows the public to review job postings;
16 (d) Allows potential applicants to electronically submit applications and relevant
17 application materials; and
18 (e) Permits school districts~~and public charter schools~~ to access, review, and
19 download applications and application materials.

20 (3) Each job posting for a vacancy at a school district~~or public charter school~~ shall
21 include the school district's~~or public charter school's~~ policy against discrimination
22 in employment.

23 (4) School districts~~and public charter schools~~ shall electronically submit all job
24 postings to the system. All postings must include an opening and closing date for
25 each position posted.

26 (5) The Kentucky Department of Education shall operate and maintain the system to
27 ensure that job postings are current, including tracking each unique position posted,

1 monitoring for repeated position postings, and removing outdated postings, and to
2 collect accurate data about employment in public schools.

3 (6) Nothing in this section shall:

4 (a) Prohibit a school district~~or public charter school~~ from advertising job
5 openings and recruiting employees independently from the system;

6 (b) Prohibit a school district~~or public charter school~~ from using another method
7 of advertising job openings or another applicant tracking system in addition to
8 the system;

9 (c) Require all job applications for posted vacancies to be submitted digitally or
10 only be submitted through the system; or

11 (d) Provide the Kentucky Department of Education with any regulatory authority
12 in the hiring process or hiring decisions of any school district~~or public
13 charter school~~.

14 (7) The Kentucky Department of Education shall prepare a report detailing data from
15 the system and its implication for the status of employment in public schools,
16 including but not limited to the number and type of unique and duplicated job
17 postings, how often postings are viewed by the public, and positions that are
18 remaining vacant by type, certification requirement, and location. The report shall
19 be submitted to the appropriate Interim Joint Committee on Education by October
20 1~~, 2023, and~~ annually~~thereafter~~.

21 ➔Section 18. KRS 160.153 is amended to read as follows:

22 (1) As used in this section:

23 (a) "Military-connected student" means a child enrolled in a Kentucky public
24 school who is a dependent of a current or former member of the Armed
25 Forces of the United States, the Kentucky National Guard, or any reserve
26 component thereof; and

27 (b) "Purple star school" means any public ~~or~~~~private~~~~or public charter~~ school

1 serving any grades of kindergarten through twelfth grade that has committed
2 to supporting the educational and social-emotional needs of military-
3 connected students, as identified by the Kentucky Commission on Military
4 Affairs.

5 (2) The Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs shall establish the Purple Star
6 School Program and establish an application, review, and designation process for
7 eligible schools.

8 (3) To qualify as a purple star school, the school shall:

9 (a) Designate a staff member as a military liaison to serve as the point of contact
10 between the school and military-connected students and their families, whose
11 duties shall include:

12 1. Identifying military-connected students enrolled in the school;

13 2. Determining appropriate services available to military-connected
14 students;

15 3. Coordinating programs relevant to military-connected students;

16 4. Assisting military-connected students in transitioning into or out of the
17 school;

18 5. Facilitating optional professional development for staff members on
19 issues related to military-connected students;

20 6. Completing a Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs purple star
21 school questionnaire to provide feedback for program improvements;
22 and

23 7. Completing Kentucky purple star school self-paced online training
24 events, including military youth in Kentucky;

25 (b) Maintain a web page on the school's website that includes a prominent display
26 of the Kentucky purple star logo provided by the Kentucky Commission on
27 Military Affairs, resources for military-connected students and their families,

1 and information regarding:

2 1. Relocation, enrollment, registration, and transferring records in the
3 school;

4 2. Academic planning, course sequences, and advanced classes available;

5 3. Counseling and other support services available for military-connected
6 students enrolled in the school; and

7 4. Contact information for the military liaison designated in this
8 subsection;

9 (c) Host at least one (1) military recognition event annually that connects the
10 school with the military community; and

11 (d) Submit an application for designation as a purple star school with the
12 Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs.

13 ➔Section 19. KRS 160.346 is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) For purposes of this section:

15 (a) "Department" means the Kentucky Department of Education;

16 (b) "ESSA" means the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, Pub. L. No. 114-95,
17 or its successor;

18 (c) "Level" means elementary, middle, or high school;

19 (d) "Turnaround" means a comprehensive transformation of a school to achieve
20 accelerated, meaningful, and sustainable increases in student achievement
21 through improved school leadership and school district support;

22 (e) "Turnaround plan" means a mandatory school plan that is designed to
23 improve student learning and performance with evidence-based interventions
24 as defined in ESSA and that is developed and implemented by the local
25 school district in partnership with stakeholders, including the principal, other
26 school leaders, teachers, and parents; and

27 (f) "Turnaround team" means the turnaround training and support team described

1 in subsection (8)(a) of this section.

2 (2) (a) The department shall annually identify a school for targeted support and
3 improvement if the school has one (1) or more of the same subgroups, as
4 defined by ESSA, whose performance in the state accountability system by
5 level is at or below that of all students in any of the lowest-performing five
6 percent (5%) of all schools for three (3) consecutive years.

7 (b) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, and every three (3) years
8 thereafter, the department shall identify a school for additional targeted
9 support and improvement if the school has one (1) or more subgroups, as
10 defined by ESSA, whose performance in the state accountability system by
11 level is at or below the summative performance of all students in any of the
12 lowest-performing five percent (5%) of all schools identified under subsection
13 (3)(a) of this section and the school was identified in the immediately
14 preceding year for targeted support and improvement as described in
15 paragraph (a) of this subsection.

16 (3) The department shall annually identify a school for comprehensive support and
17 improvement if the school is:
18 (a) In the lowest-performing five percent (5%) of all schools in its level based on
19 the school's performance in the state accountability system;
20 (b) A high school with a four (4) year cohort graduation rate that is less than
21 eighty percent (80%); or
22 (c) Identified by the department for additional targeted support and improvement
23 under subsection (2)(b) of this section and fails to exit additional targeted
24 support and improvement status based on criteria established under subsection
25 (11) of this section.

26 (4) (a) When a school is identified for targeted support and improvement under
27 subsection (2)(a) of this section, the local school personnel, working with

1 stakeholders, including the principal, other school leaders, teachers, and
2 parents, shall revise its school improvement plan, which shall be subject to
3 review and approval by the local board of education.

4 (b) Each revised plan shall be informed by all available indicators, including
5 student performance compared to long-term goals, and shall include:

- 6 1. Components of turnaround leadership development and support;
- 7 2. Identification of critical resource inequities;
- 8 3. Evidence-based interventions; and
- 9 4. Additional actions that address the causes of consistently
10 underperforming subgroups of students.

11 (c) If adequate performance progress, as defined by the department, is not made,
12 the local school district shall take additional action to assist and support the
13 school in reaching performance goals.

14 (5) When a school is identified for additional targeted support and improvement under
15 subsection (2)(b) of this section, the local school district shall take more rigorous
16 district-determined action to assist and support the school in reaching performance
17 goals.

18 (6) (a) When a school is identified for comprehensive support and improvement, an
19 audit shall be performed by the department to diagnose the causes of the
20 school's low performance.

21 (b) The audit conducted under this subsection shall be the only comprehensive
22 audit required for a school unless the school fails to exit comprehensive
23 support and improvement status as described in subsection (11) of this section
24 or exits comprehensive support and improvement status but subsequently
25 repeats as a school identified for comprehensive support and improvement.

26 (7) (a) The audit conducted by the department under subsection (6) of this section
27 shall include:

1 vacancy occurs. The superintendent shall consult with the turnaround team,
2 parents, certified staff, and classified staff before appointing a principal
3 replacement;

4 (d) Upon recommendation of the principal, the superintendent may reassign
5 certified staff members to a comparable position in the school district;

6 (e) The superintendent shall collaborate with the turnaround team to design
7 ongoing turnaround training and support for the principal and a corresponding
8 monitoring system of effectiveness and student achievement results;

9 (f) The principal shall collaborate with the turnaround team to establish an
10 advisory leadership team representing school stakeholders including other
11 school leaders, teachers, and parents;

12 (g) 1. In consultation with the department, the local school board shall
13 collaborate with the superintendent, principal, turnaround team, and the
14 advisory leadership team to propose a three (3) year turnaround plan.
15 2. The turnaround plan shall include requests to the department for
16 exemptions from submitting documentation that are identified by the
17 principal, advisory leadership team, and turnaround team as inhibitors to
18 investing time in innovative instruction and accelerated student
19 achievement of diverse learners including ongoing staff instructional
20 plans, student interventions, formative assessment results, or staff
21 effectiveness processes.
22 3. The turnaround plan shall be reviewed for approval by the
23 superintendent and the local board of education and shall be subject to
24 review, approval, monitoring, and periodic review by the department as
25 described in KRS 158.782;

26 (h) The school district may request technical assistance from the department for
27 development and implementation of the turnaround plan, which may include

conducting needs assessments, selecting evidence-based interventions, and reviewing and addressing resource inequities;

(i) The turnaround plan shall be fully implemented by the first full day of the school year following the school year the school was identified for comprehensive support and improvement; and

(j) The superintendent shall periodically report to the local school board, and at least annually to the commissioner of education, on the implementation and results of the turnaround plan.

(9) The department shall establish required professional learning for teachers of students in schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement. Required professional learning shall be related to evidence-based practices in instruction, instructional materials implementation, and assessment for reading and mathematics and aligned to Kentucky academic standards required by KRS 158.6453.

(10) Each superintendent~~or public charter school board of directors~~ shall adopt evidence-based curriculum and select high-quality instructional resources for schools identified for comprehensive support and improvement. High-quality instructional materials selected by the superintendent shall be determined by the department to be reliable, valid, and aligned to Kentucky academic standards required by KRS 158.6453 for reading and mathematics.

(11) The Kentucky Board of Education shall establish annual statewide exit criteria for schools identified for targeted support and improvement, additional targeted support and improvement, and comprehensive support and improvement.

(12) If a school enters comprehensive support and improvement status and does not make any annual improvement, as determined by the department, for two (2) consecutive years, or if the school does not exit the status after three (3) years, the school shall enter a school intervention process chosen by the commissioner of

1 education that provides more rigorous support and action by the department to
2 improve the school's performance.

3 (13) For school districts that include a significant number of schools, as determined by
4 the department, identified for targeted support and improvement:

5 (a) The department shall periodically review a local board's resource allocations
6 to support school improvement and provide technical assistance to the local
7 school board; and

8 (b) The department may provide a recommended list of turnaround or school
9 intervention providers that have demonstrated success implementing
10 evidence-based strategies.

11 (14) If, in the course of a school audit, the audit team identifies information suggesting
12 that a violation of KRS 160.345(9)(a) may have occurred, the commissioner of
13 education shall forward the evidence to the Office of Education Accountability for
14 investigation.

15 (15) A school's right to establish a council granted under KRS 160.345 may be restored
16 by the local board of education two (2) years after the school exits comprehensive
17 support and improvement status.

18 ➔Section 20. KRS 161.164 is amended to read as follows:

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

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

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

1 vote or political action of any person.

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

7 (5) Any instruction or instructional materials on current, controversial topics related to
8 public policy or social affairs provided to public school[~~or public charter school~~]
9 students, regardless of whether the individual that provides the instruction is
10 employed by the local school district[~~or public charter school~~], shall be:
11 (a) Within the range of knowledge, understanding, age, and maturity of the
12 students receiving the instruction; and
13 (b) Relevant, objective, nondiscriminatory, and respectful to the differing
14 perspectives of students.

15 (6) An employee of a public school district[~~or public charter school~~] shall not violate a
16 student's First Amendment rights by requiring or incentivizing a student to advocate
17 in a civic space on behalf of a perspective with which the student or the parent or
18 guardian of a minor student does not agree.

19 (7) An employee of a local school district[~~or public charter school~~] shall not be
20 required to engage in training, orientation, or therapy that coerces the employee to
21 stereotype any group.

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

24 ➔Section 21. KRS 161.220 is amended to read as follows:

25 As used in KRS 161.220 to 161.716 and 161.990:

26 (1) "Retirement system" means the arrangement provided for in KRS 161.220 to
27 161.716 and 161.990 for payment of allowances to members;

1 (2) "Retirement allowance" means the amount annually payable during the course of
2 his or her natural life to a member who has been retired by reason of service;

3 (3) "Disability allowance" means the amount annually payable to a member retired by
4 reason of disability;

5 (4) "Member" means the commissioner of education, deputy commissioners, associate
6 commissioners, and all division directors in the State Department of Education,
7 employees participating in the system pursuant to KRS 196.167(3)(b)1., and any
8 full-time teacher or professional occupying a position requiring certification or
9 graduation from a four (4) year college or university, as a condition of employment,
10 and who is employed by public boards, institutions, or agencies as follows:

11 (a) Local boards of education[~~and public charter schools if the public charter~~
12 ~~school satisfies the criteria set by the Internal Revenue Service to participate~~
13 ~~in a governmental retirement plan~~];

14 (b) Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky State University, Morehead State
15 University, Murray State University, Western Kentucky University, and any
16 community colleges established under the control of these universities;

17 (c) State-operated secondary area vocational education or area technology
18 centers, Kentucky School for the Blind, and Kentucky School for the Deaf;

19 (d) Other public education agencies as created by the General Assembly and
20 those members of the administrative staff of the Teachers' Retirement System
21 of the State of Kentucky whom the board of trustees may designate by
22 administrative regulation;

23 (e) Regional cooperative organizations formed by local boards of education or
24 other public educational institutions listed in this subsection, for the purpose
25 of providing educational services to the participating organizations;

26 (f) All full-time members of the staffs of the Kentucky Association of School
27 Administrators, Kentucky Education Association, Kentucky Vocational

14 (g) Employees of the Council on Postsecondary Education who were employees
15 of the Department for Adult Education and Literacy and who were members
16 of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System at the time the department was
17 transferred to the council pursuant to Executive Order 2003-600;

18 (h) The Office of Career and Technical Education;

19 (i) The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation;

20 (j) The Kentucky Educational Collaborative for State Agency Children;

21 (k) The Governor's Scholars Program;

22 (l) Any person who is retired for service from the retirement system and is
23 reemployed by an employer identified in this subsection in a position that the
24 board of trustees deems to be a member, except that any person who becomes
25 a member on or after January 1, 2022, and subsequently draws a monthly
26 lifetime retirement allowance, shall upon reemployment after retirement not
27 earn a second retirement account;

1 (m) Employees of the former Cabinet for Workforce Development who are
2 transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and
3 who occupy positions covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System
4 shall remain in the Teachers' Retirement System. New employees occupying
5 these positions, as well as newly created positions qualifying for Teachers'
6 Retirement System coverage that would have previously been included in the
7 former Cabinet for Workforce Development, shall be members of the
8 Teachers' Retirement System;

9 (n) Effective January 1, 1998, employees of state community colleges who are
10 transferred to the Kentucky Community and Technical College System shall
11 continue to participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital
12 insurance, and a retirement plan other than the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement
13 System offered by Kentucky Community and Technical College System. New
14 employees occupying positions in the Kentucky Community and Technical
15 College System as referenced in KRS 164.5807(5) that would not have
16 previously been included in the former Cabinet for Workforce Development,
17 shall participate in federal old age, survivors, disability, and hospital
18 insurance and have a choice at the time of employment of participating in a
19 retirement plan provided by the Kentucky Community and Technical College
20 System, including participation in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System,
21 on the same basis as faculty of the state universities as provided in KRS
22 161.540 and 161.620;

23 (o) Employees of the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Budget and
24 Administrative Services, and the Office of Quality and Human Resources
25 within the Office of the Secretary of the former Cabinet for Workforce
26 Development and the commissioners of the former Department for Adult
27 Education and Literacy and the former Department for Technical Education

1 who were contributing to the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System as of
2 July 15, 2000;

3 (p) Employees of the Kentucky Department of Education only who are graduates
4 of a four (4) year college or university, notwithstanding a substitution clause
5 within a job classification, and who are serving in a professional job
6 classification as defined by the department;

7 (q) The Governor's School for Entrepreneurs Program;

8 (r) Employees of the Office of Adult Education within the Department of
9 Workforce Development in the Education and Labor Cabinet who were
10 employees of the Council on Postsecondary Education, Kentucky Adult
11 Education Program and who were members of the Kentucky Teachers'
12 Retirement System at the time the Program was transferred to the cabinet
13 pursuant to Executive Orders 2019-0026 and 2019-0027;

14 (s) Employees of the Education Professional Standards Board who were
15 members of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System at the time the
16 employees were transferred to the Kentucky Department of Education
17 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-590; and

18 (t) WeLeadCS, the virtual computer science career academy established in KRS
19 158.809;

20 (5) "Present teacher" means any teacher who was a teacher on or before July 1, 1940,
21 and became a member of the retirement system created by 1938 (1st Extra. Sess.)
22 Ky. Acts ch. 1, on the date of the inauguration of the system or within one (1) year
23 after that date, and any teacher who was a member of a local teacher retirement
24 system in the public elementary or secondary schools of the state on or before July
25 1, 1940, and continued to be a member of the system until he or she, with the
26 membership of the local retirement system, became a member of the state Teachers'
27 Retirement System or who becomes a member under the provisions of KRS

1 161.470(4);

2 (6) "New teacher" means any member not a present teacher;

3 (7) "Prior service" means the number of years during which the member was a teacher

4 in Kentucky prior to July 1, 1941, except that not more than thirty (30) years' prior

5 service shall be allowed or credited to any teacher;

6 (8) "Subsequent service" means the number of years during which the teacher is a

7 member of the Teachers' Retirement System after July 1, 1941;

8 (9) "Final average salary" means the average of the five (5) highest annual salaries

9 which the member has received for service in a covered position and on which the

10 member has made contributions, or on which the public board, institution, or

11 agency has picked-up member contributions pursuant to KRS 161.540(2), or the

12 average of the five (5) years of highest salaries as defined in KRS 61.680(2)(a),

13 which shall include picked-up member contributions. Additionally, the board of

14 trustees may approve a final average salary based upon the average of the three (3)

15 highest salaries for individuals who become members prior to January 1, 2022, who

16 are at least fifty-five (55) years of age and have a minimum of twenty-seven (27)

17 years of Kentucky service credit. However, if any of the five (5) or three (3) highest

18 annual salaries used to calculate the final average salary was paid within the three

19 (3) years immediately prior to the date of the member's retirement for individuals

20 who become members prior to January 1, 2022, or within the five (5) years

21 immediately prior to the date of the member's retirement for individuals who

22 become members on or after January 1, 2022, the amount of salary to be included

23 for each of those three (3) years or five (5) years, as applicable, for the purpose of

24 calculating the final average salary shall be limited to the lesser of:

25 (a) The member's actual salary; or

26 (b) The member's annual salary that was used for retirement purposes during each

27 of the prior three (3) years or five (5) years, as applicable, plus a percentage

1 increase equal to the percentage increase received by all other members
2 employed by the public board, institution, or agency, or for members of
3 school districts, the highest percentage increase received by members on any
4 one (1) rank and step of the salary schedule of the school district. The increase
5 shall be computed on the salary that was used for retirement purposes. The
6 board of trustees may promulgate an administrative regulation in accordance
7 with KRS Chapter 13A to establish a methodology for measuring the
8 limitation so that the combined increases in salary for each of the last three (3)
9 full years of salary prior to retirement shall not exceed the total permissible
10 percentage increase received by other members of the employer for the same
11 three (3) year period.

12 For individuals who became members of the retirement system prior to July 1,
13 2021, this limitation shall not apply if the member receives an increase in salary in a
14 percentage exceeding that received by the other members, and this increase was
15 accompanied by a corresponding change in position or in length of employment.
16 The board of trustees may promulgate an administrative regulation in accordance
17 with KRS Chapter 13A to provide definitions for a corresponding change in
18 position or in length of employment. This limitation shall also not apply to the
19 payment to a member for accrued annual leave if the individual becomes a member
20 before July 1, 2008, or accrued sick leave which is authorized by statute and which
21 shall, for individuals subject to KRS 161.155(10) who became nonuniversity
22 members of the system prior to January 1, 2022, be included as part of a retiring
23 member's annual compensation for the member's last year of active service;

24 (10) "Annual compensation" means the total salary received by a member as
25 compensation for all services performed in employment covered by the retirement
26 system during a fiscal year. Annual compensation shall not include payment for any
27 benefit or salary adjustments made by the public board, institution, or agency to the

1 member or on behalf of the member which is not available as a benefit or salary
2 adjustment to other members employed by that public board, institution, or agency.
3 Annual compensation shall not include the salary supplement received by a member
4 under KRS 157.197(2)(c), 158.6455, or 158.782 on or after July 1, 1996. Under no
5 circumstances shall annual compensation include compensation that is earned by a
6 member while on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a public
7 board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. In the event that
8 federal law requires that a member continue membership in the retirement system
9 even though the member is on assignment to an organization or agency that is not a
10 public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section, the
11 member's annual compensation for retirement purposes shall be deemed to be the
12 annual compensation, as limited by subsection (9) of this section, last earned by the
13 member while still employed solely by and providing services directly to a public
14 board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4) of this section. The board of
15 trustees shall determine if any benefit or salary adjustment qualifies as annual
16 compensation. For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008,
17 annual compensation shall not include lump-sum payments upon termination of
18 employment for accumulated annual or compensatory leave;

19 (11) "Age of member" means the age attained on the first day of the month immediately
20 following the birthdate of the member. This definition is limited to retirement
21 eligibility and does not apply to tenure of members;

22 (12) "Employ," and derivatives thereof, means relationships under which an individual
23 provides services to an employer as an employee, as an independent contractor, as
24 an employee of a third party, or under any other arrangement as long as the services
25 provided to the employer are provided in a position that would otherwise be
26 covered by the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System and as long as the services
27 are being provided to a public board, institution, or agency listed in subsection (4)

1 of this section;

2 (13) "Regular interest" means:

3 (a) For an individual who becomes a member prior to July 1, 2008, interest at
4 three percent (3%) per annum;

5 (b) For an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, but prior to
6 January 1, 2022, interest at two and one-half percent (2.5%) per annum for
7 purposes of crediting interest to the teacher savings account or any other
8 contributions made by the employee that are refundable to the employee upon
9 termination of employment; and

10 (c) For an individual who becomes a member on or after January 1, 2022, the
11 rolling five (5) year yield on a thirty (30) year United States Treasury bond as
12 of the end of May prior to the most recently completed fiscal year, except
13 that:

14 1. Once the member has at least sixty (60) months of service in the system
15 it shall mean interest at two and one-half percent (2.5%) per annum for
16 purposes of crediting interest to employee contributions in the
17 foundational benefit component or any other contributions made by the
18 employee to the foundational benefit component that are refundable to
19 the employee upon termination of employment; and

20 2. The board shall have the authority to adjust the regular interest rate for
21 individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2022, in
22 accordance with KRS 161.633 and 161.634;

23 (14) "Accumulated contributions" means the contributions of a member to the teachers'
24 savings fund, including picked-up member contributions as described in KRS
25 161.540(2), plus accrued regular interest;

26 (15) "Annuitant" means a person who receives a retirement allowance or a disability
27 allowance;

- 1 (16) "Local retirement system" means any teacher retirement or annuity system created
2 in any public school district in Kentucky in accordance with the laws of Kentucky;
- 3 (17) "Fiscal year" means the twelve (12) month period from July 1 to June 30. The
4 retirement plan year is concurrent with this fiscal year. A contract for a member
5 employed by a local board of education may not exceed two hundred sixty-one
6 (261) days in the fiscal year;
- 7 (18) "Public schools" means the schools and other institutions mentioned in subsection
8 (4) of this section;
- 9 (19) "Dependent" as used in KRS 161.520 and 161.525 means a person who was
10 receiving, at the time of death of the member, at least one-half (1/2) of the support
11 from the member for maintenance, including board, lodging, medical care, and
12 related costs;
- 13 (20) "Active contributing member" means a member currently making contributions to
14 the Teachers' Retirement System, who made contributions in the immediate
15 preceding fiscal year, for whom picked-up member contributions are currently
16 being made, or for whom these contributions were made in the immediate
17 preceding fiscal year;
- 18 (21) "Full-time" means employment in a position that requires services on a continuing
19 basis equal to at least seven-tenths (7/10) of normal full-time service on a fiscal
20 year basis;
- 21 (22) "Full actuarial cost," when used to determine the payment or payments that a
22 member must pay for service credit means the actuarial value of all costs associated
23 with the enhancement of a member's benefits or eligibility for benefit
24 enhancements, including health insurance supplement payments made by the
25 retirement system. The board may promulgate administrative regulations in
26 accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to provide the methodology for the assessment
27 of and procedures for the payment and collection of the full actuarial cost of the

1 purchased service. The actuary for the retirement system shall determine the full
2 actuarial value costs and actuarial cost factor tables as provided in KRS 161.400;

3 (23) "Last annual compensation" means the annual compensation, as defined by
4 subsection (10) of this section and as limited by subsection (9) of this section,
5 earned by the member during the most recent period of contributing service, either
6 consecutive or nonconsecutive, that is sufficient to provide the member with one (1)
7 full year of service credit in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, and which
8 compensation is used in calculating the member's initial retirement allowance,
9 excluding bonuses, retirement incentives, payments for accumulated sick leave,
10 annual, personal, and compensatory leave, and any other lump-sum payment. For
11 an individual who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2008, payments for annual
12 or compensatory leave shall not be included in determining the member's last
13 annual compensation;

14 (24) "Participant" means a member, as defined by subsection (4) of this section, or an
15 annuitant, as defined by subsection (15) of this section;

16 (25) "Qualified domestic relations order" means any judgment, decree, or order,
17 including approval of a property settlement agreement, that:
18 (a) Is issued by a court or administrative agency; and
19 (b) Relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital
20 property rights to an alternate payee;

21 (26) "Alternate payee" means a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a
22 participant, who is designated to be paid retirement benefits in a qualified domestic
23 relations order;

24 (27) "University member" means an individual who becomes a member through
25 employment with an employer specified in subsection (4)(b) and (n) of this section;

26 (28) "Nonuniversity member" means an individual who becomes a member through
27 employment with an employer specified under subsection (4) of this section, except

1 for those members employed by an employer specified in subsection (4)(b) and (n)
2 of this section;

3 (29) "Accumulated employer contribution" means the employer contribution deposited
4 to a member's account through the supplemental benefit component and regular
5 interest credited on such amounts as provided by KRS 161.635 for nonuniversity
6 members and KRS 161.636 for university members;

7 (30) "Accumulated account balance" means:
8 (a) For members who began participating in the system prior to January 1, 2022,
9 the member's accumulated contributions; or
10 (b) For members who began participating in the system on or after January 1,
11 2022, the combined sum of the member's accumulated contributions and the
12 member's accumulated employer contributions;

13 (31) "Foundational benefit component" means the benefits provided by KRS 161.220 to
14 161.716 to individuals who become members on or after January 1, 2022, except
15 for the supplemental benefit component and retiree health benefits set forth in KRS
16 161.675; and

17 (32) "Supplemental benefit component" means:
18 (a) The benefit established pursuant to KRS 161.635 for individuals who become
19 nonuniversity members on or after January 1, 2022; or
20 (b) The benefit established pursuant to KRS 161.636 for individuals who become
21 university members on or after January 1, 2022.

22 ➔Section 22. KRS 218B.045 is amended to read as follows:

23 (1) A registered qualified patient or visiting qualified patient who uses medicinal
24 cannabis shall be afforded all the same rights under state and local law, including
25 those guaranteed under KRS Chapter 344, as the individual would have been
26 afforded if he or she were solely prescribed pharmaceutical medications as they
27 pertain to drug testing required by any state or local law.

- 1 (2) A cardholder otherwise entitled to custody of, or visitation time or parenting time
2 with, a minor child shall not be denied that right, and there shall be no presumption
3 of abuse, neglect, or dependency for conduct permitted under this chapter unless the
4 person's actions in relation to medicinal cannabis created an unreasonable danger to
5 the safety of the minor child as established by clear and convincing evidence.
- 6 (3) (a) For the purposes of medical care, including organ transplants, a patient's
7 authorized use of medicinal cannabis is the equivalent of the authorized use of
8 any other medication used at the direction of a practitioner.
9 (b) A health facility as defined in KRS 216B.015 may develop policies to allow a
10 patient who is a registered qualified patient or visiting qualified patient to use
11 medicinal cannabis on the premises of the health facility.
- 12 (4) (a) A school shall not refuse to enroll, or otherwise penalize, a person solely for
13 his or her status as a cardholder, unless failing to do so would violate federal
14 law or regulations and cause the school to lose a monetary or licensing-related
15 benefit under federal law or regulations.
16 (b) A school shall not be penalized or denied any benefit under state law for
17 enrolling a cardholder.
18 (c) Each local board of education~~, each board of directors of a public charter~~
19 ~~school,~~ and the governing body of each certified nonpublic school shall~~, no~~
20 ~~later than December 1, 2024,~~ establish policies related to the use of medicinal
21 cannabis by a pupil who is a registered qualified patient on school property.
22 Policies enacted pursuant to this paragraph shall either prohibit the use of
23 medicinal cannabis on school property or permit the use of medicinal
24 cannabis on school property by a pupil who is a registered qualified patient as
25 deemed necessary by the pupil's parent or legal guardian. If a local board of
26 education~~, the board of directors of a public charter school,~~ or the governing
27 body of a certified nonpublic school enacts a policy to permit the use of

1 medicinal cannabis by a pupil who is a registered qualified patient, that policy
2 shall:

- 3 1. Require medicinal cannabis be administered:
 - 4 a. i. By a school nurse or under the supervision of appropriate
5 school staff; or
 - 6 ii. By the parent or legal guardian of the pupil who is a
7 registered qualified patient; and
 - 8 b. Out of view of other students; and
- 9 2. Include a process by which a school nurse or other school staff member
10 may refuse to administer or supervise the administration of medicinal
11 cannabis.

12 ➔Section 23. The following KRS sections are repealed:

- 13 160.1590 Definitions for KRS 160.1590 to 160.1599.
- 14 160.1591 Legislative findings and declarations -- Public charter school project.
- 15 160.15911 Kentucky Public Charter School Pilot Project -- Authorizers -- Approval of
16 charter application -- Collective may act as substitute authorizer -- Annual report --
17 Performance review -- Contract renewal.
- 18 160.1592 Public charter schools part of state's public education system -- Exemption
19 from laws and regulations -- School requirements -- Enrollment option information
20 for parents -- Board of directors -- Buildings and grounds, liability insurance, and
21 other undertakings -- Requirement to be nonsectarian and nondiscriminatory --
22 Authorized grade levels -- Programs and services for students with disabilities --
23 Participation in athletic, academic, and other programs -- Single-sex public charter
24 schools permitted -- Amendments to charter contract -- Acceptance of credits
25 earned and grades received in public charter school -- Leave of absence to teach in
26 public charter school.
- 27 160.1593 Application to establish public charter school -- Submission to authorizer and

1 state board -- Required application information.

2 160.1594 Public charter school authorizer -- Duties -- Application reviews and decisions
3 -- Criteria for approval -- Explanation of decision -- Submission to Department of
4 Education -- School board member charter authorization training.

5 160.1595 Request for technical assistance -- Appeal of approval or denial to state board
6 -- Judicial review -- Joint oversight.

7 160.1596 Board of directors of public charter schools -- Required elements of charter
8 contract with authorizer -- Calculation of daily average attendance -- Proportional
9 transfer of funds -- Services -- Negotiation by collaborative -- Calculations for first
10 year -- Authorizer fee -- Schedule for funds transfer -- Grants -- Share of state and
11 federal funds -- Distribution of closed school's assets -- Administrative regulations -
12 - Annual report by authorizer.

13 160.1597 Term of approved charter school contract -- Contract between board of
14 directors and authorizer's governing body -- Corporate powers -- Prohibition against
15 tax levies and use of eminent domain -- Immunity from liability.

16 160.1598 Renewal or nonrenewal of charter contract -- School performance report --
17 Reasons for nonrenewal or revocation -- Administrative regulations -- Report of
18 action taken and reason for decision -- School closure protocol.

19 160.1599 Conversion of public noncharter school to public charter school --
20 Establishment requirements -- Administrative regulations -- Governance --
21 Enrollment requirements -- Employees -- Collective bargaining -- School
22 facilities.

23 161.141 Participation in retirement systems -- State-sponsored insurance program --
24 Appropriations for retirement and insurance -- Sick leave credit -- Requirements
25 and prohibitions concerning public charter school employees and local school
26 boards -- Employees of education service provider.