

1           AN ACT relating to civil rights.

2           WHEREAS, in 1992 the General Assembly enacted amendments to the Kentucky  
3           Civil Rights Act ("KCRA") to prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability in a  
4           manner similar to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and now wishes to adopt  
5           measures similar to those subsequently enacted by Congress in the Americans with  
6           Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, thus resolving the question posed in *Turner v.*  
7           *Norton Healthcare, Inc.*, 681 S.W.3d 26 (Ky. 2023); and

8           WHEREAS, the General Assembly desires to resolve procedural issues stemming  
9           from the KCRA's election of remedies statute, KRS 344.270, that were identified by the  
10           Kentucky Supreme Court in *Owen v. University of Kentucky*, 486 S.W.3d 266 (Ky.  
11           2016); and

12           WHEREAS, the right to a trial by jury in civil causes of action is enshrined in  
13           Section 7 of the Constitution of Kentucky and in the Seventh Amendment to the  
14           Constitution of the United States; and

15           WHEREAS, the General Assembly maintains that the laws of this Commonwealth  
16           should respect the right to a trial by jury for those causes of action to which the  
17           constitutional right to a trial by jury attaches, and provide an appropriate forum for the  
18           adjudication of those causes of action; and

19           WHEREAS, the General Assembly believes that the Court of Justice, not an  
20           administrative agency, is the appropriate forum for the adjudication of those causes of  
21           action; and

22           WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the valuable contributions of the  
23           Kentucky Commission on Human Rights in the years since its creation in 1960; and

24           WHEREAS, the General Assembly desires for the Commission on Human Rights  
25           to continue to perform its longstanding investigative and other non-adjudicative  
26           functions; and

27           WHEREAS, the General Assembly believes that the adjudicative functions

1 previously performed by the Commission on Human Rights should hereafter be  
2 performed by the Court of Justice, where jury trials are available;

3       NOW, THEREFORE,

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

5       ➔Section 1. KRS 344.010 is amended to read as follows:

6       As used in this chapter:

7       (1) "Commission" means the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights;["Person"  
8       includes one (1) or more individuals, labor organizations, joint apprenticeship  
9       committees, partnerships, associations, corporations, legal representatives, mutual  
10       companies, joint stock companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees,  
11       trustees in bankruptcy, fiduciaries, receivers, or other legal or commercial entity;  
12       the state, any of its political or civil subdivisions or agencies.]

13       (2) "Commissioner" means a member of the commission;["Commission" means the  
14       Kentucky Commission on Human Rights.]

15       (3) "Credit transaction" means any open-end or closed-end credit transaction,  
16       whether in the nature of a loan, retail installment transaction, credit card issue or  
17       charge, or otherwise, and whether for personal or for business purposes, in which  
18       a service, finance, or interest charge is imposed, or which provides for repayment  
19       in scheduled payments, when credit is extended in the regular course of business  
20       of any trade or commerce, including but not limited to transactions by banks,  
21       savings and loan associations, or other financial lending institutions of whatever  
22       nature, by stock brokers, or by a merchant or mercantile establishment which as  
23       part of its ordinary business permits or provides that payment for purchases of  
24       property or services therefrom may be deferred;["Commissioner" means a member  
25       of the commission.]

26       (4) (a) "Disability" means, with respect to an individual:

27           1. [(a)] A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one (1)

or more of the major life activities of the individual;

2. [(b)] A record of such an impairment; or

3. [(e)] Being regarded as having such an impairment.

(b) "Disability" and "substantially limits" shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-325, as amended;†

Persons with current or past controlled substances abuse or alcohol abuse problems and persons excluded from coverage by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-336) shall be excluded from this section.]

10 (5) "Discrimination" means any direct or indirect act or practice of exclusion,  
11 distinction, restriction, segregation, limitation, refusal, denial, or any other act or  
12 practice of differentiation or preference in the treatment of a person or persons, or  
13 the aiding, abetting, inciting, coercing, or compelling thereof made unlawful under  
14 this chapter;[.]

15 (6) *"Discriminatory housing practice"* means an act that is unlawful under KRS  
16 344.360, 344.367, 344.370, 344.380, or 344.680;["Real property" includes  
17 buildings, structures, real estate, lands, tenements, leaseholds, cooperatives,  
18 condominiums, and hereditaments, corporeal and incorporeal, or any interest in the  
19 above.]

20 (7) (a) "Familial status" means one (1) or more individuals who have not attained  
21 the age of eighteen (18) and are domiciled with:

**1. A parent or other person having legal custody of the individual or individuals: or**

2. The designee of a parent or other person having custody, with the written permission of the parent or other person

1                   *securing legal custody of any individual who has not attained the age of*  
2                   *eighteen (18);*["Housing accommodations" includes improved and  
3                   unimproved property and means any building, structure, lot or portion thereof,  
4                   which is used or occupied, or is intended, arranged, or designed to be used or  
5                   occupied as the home or residence of one (1) or more families, and any vacant  
6                   land which is offered for sale or lease for the construction or location thereon  
7                   of any such building or structure.]

8 (8) *"Family" includes a single individual;*["Real estate operator" means any  
9                   individual or combination of individuals, labor organizations, joint apprenticeship  
10                  committees, partnerships, associations, corporations, legal representatives, mutual  
11                  companies, joint stock companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees in  
12                  bankruptcy, receivers, or other legal or commercial entity, the county, or any of its  
13                  agencies, that is engaged in the business of selling, purchasing, exchanging, renting,  
14                  or leasing real estate, or the improvements thereon, including options, or that  
15                  derives income, in whole or in part, from the sale, purchase, exchange, rental, or  
16                  lease of real estate; or an individual employed by or acting on behalf of any of  
17                  these.]

18 (9) *"Financial institution" means a bank, banking organization, mortgage company,*  
19                  *insurance company, or other lender to whom application is made for financial*  
20                  *assistance for the purchase, lease, acquisition, construction, rehabilitation,*  
21                  *repair, maintenance, or improvement of real property, or an individual employed*  
22                  *by or acting on behalf of any of these;*["Real estate broker" or "real estate  
23                  salesman" means any individual, whether licensed or not, who, on behalf of others,  
24                  for a fee, commission, salary, or other valuable consideration, or who with the  
25                  intention or expectation of receiving or collecting the same, lists, sells, purchases,  
26                  exchanges, rents, or leases real estate, or the improvements thereon, including  
27                  options, or who negotiates or attempts to negotiate on behalf of others such an

1       activity; or who advertises or holds himself out as engaged in these activities; or  
2       who negotiates or attempts to negotiate on behalf of others a loan secured by  
3       mortgage or other encumbrance upon a transfer of real estate, or who is engaged in  
4       the business of charging an advance fee or contracting for collection of a fee in  
5       connection with a contract whereby he undertakes to promote the sale, purchase,  
6       exchange, rental, or lease of real estate through its listing in a publication issued  
7       primarily for this purpose; or any person employed by or acting on behalf of any of  
8       these.]

9       (10) "Housing accommodations" includes improved and unimproved property and  
10       means a building, structure, lot, or portion thereof, which is used or occupied, or  
11       is intended, arranged, or designed to be used or occupied, as the home or  
12       residence of one (1) or more families, and any vacant land which is offered for  
13       sale or lease for the construction or location thereon of any building or  
14       structure;["Financial institution" means bank, banking organization, mortgage  
15       company, insurance company, or other lender to whom application is made for  
16       financial assistance for the purchase, lease, acquisition, construction, rehabilitation,  
17       repair, maintenance, or improvement of real property, or an individual employed by  
18       or acting on behalf of any of these.]

19       (11) "Licensing agency" means any public or private organization which has as one (1)  
20       of its duties the issuing of licenses or the setting of standards which an individual  
21       must hold or must meet as a condition to practicing a particular trade or profession  
22       or to obtaining certain employment within the state or as a condition to competing  
23       effectively with an individual who does hold a license or meet the standards;[.]

24       (12) "Major life activities":

25       (a) Includes but is not limited to caring for oneself, performing manual tasks,  
26       seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending,  
27       speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking,

communicating, and working; and

**(b) Includes the operation of a major bodily function, including but not limited to function of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions; [**"Credit transaction" shall mean any open or closed end credit transaction whether in the nature of a loan, retail installment transaction, credit card issue or charge, or otherwise, and whether for personal or for business purposes, in which a service, finance, or interest charge is imposed, or which provides for repayment in scheduled payments, when such credit is extended in the course of the regular course of any trade or commerce, including but not limited to transactions by banks, savings and loan associations, or other financial lending institutions of whatever nature, stock brokers, or by a merchant or mercantile establishment which as part of its ordinary business permits or provides that payment for purchases of property or services therefrom may be deferred.**]**

16 (13) "Person" includes one (1) or more individuals, labor organizations, joint  
17 apprenticeship committees, partnerships, associations, corporations, legal  
18 representatives, mutual companies, joint-stock companies, limited liability  
19 companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy,  
20 fiduciaries, receivers, or other legal or commercial entities, the Commonwealth,  
21 or any of its political or civil subdivisions or agencies; ["To rent" means to lease, to  
22 sublease, to let, or otherwise to grant for a consideration the right to occupy  
23 premises not owned by the occupant.]

24 (14) **"Real estate broker" or "real estate salesperson" means any individual, whether**  
25 **licensed or not, who:**

26                   (a) On behalf of others, for a fee, commission, salary, or other valuable  
27                   consideration, or who with the intention or expectation of receiving or

1                   collecting valuable consideration, lists, sells, purchases, exchanges, rents,  
2                   or leases real estate, or the improvements thereon, including options;

3                   **(b) Negotiates or attempts to negotiate on behalf of others:**

4                   **1. An activity described in paragraph (a) of this subsection; or**  
5                   **2. A loan secured by a mortgage or other encumbrance upon a transfer**  
6                   **of real estate;**

7                   **(c) Advertises or holds oneself out as engaged in an activity described in**  
8                   **paragraph (a) of this subsection;**

9                   **(d) Is engaged in the business of charging an advance fee or contracting for**  
10                   **collection of a fee in connection with a contract whereby the individual**  
11                   **undertakes to promote the sale, purchase, exchange, rental, or lease of real**  
12                   **estate through its listing in a publication issued primarily for this purpose;**  
13                   **or**

14                   **(e) Is employed by or acting on behalf of any person described in paragraphs**  
15                   **(a) to (d) of this subsection;** ["Family" includes a single individual.]

16                   **(15) "Real estate operator" means:**

17                   **(a) Any individual or combination of individuals, labor organizations, joint**  
18                   **apprenticeship committees, partnerships, associations, corporations, legal**  
19                   **representatives, mutual companies, joint stock companies, limited liability**  
20                   **companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees in bankruptcy,**  
21                   **receivers, or other legal or commercial entities, or a local government or**  
22                   **any of its agencies that:**

23                   **1. Is engaged in the business of selling, purchasing, exchanging, renting,**  
24                   **or leasing real estate, or the improvements thereon, including options;**

25                   **or**

26                   **2. Derives income, in whole or in part, from the sale, purchase,**  
27                   **exchange, rental, or lease of real estate; or**

1                   **(b) An individual employed by or acting on behalf of any individual or entity**  
2                   **described in paragraph (a) of this subsection;**[(a) "Familial status" means  
3                   one (1) or more individuals who have not attained the age of eighteen (18)  
4                   years and are domiciled with:  
5                   1. A parent or another person having legal custody of the individual or  
6                   individuals; or  
7                   2. The designee of a parent or other person having custody, with the  
8                   written permission of the parent or other person.  
9                   (b) The protection afforded against discrimination on the basis of familial status  
10                  shall apply to any person who is pregnant or is in the process of securing legal  
11                  custody of any individual who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) years.]  
12                  (16) **"Real property" includes buildings, structures, real estate, lands, tenements,**  
13                  **leaseholds, cooperatives, condominiums, and hereditaments, corporeal and**  
14                  **incorporeal, or any interest in those;**["Discriminatory housing practice" means an  
15                  act that is unlawful under KRS 344.360, 344.367, 344.370, 344.380, or 344.680.]  
16                  (17) **"Regarded as having such an impairment":**  
17                  (a) **Means an individual has established that he or she has been subjected to an**  
18                  **action prohibited under this chapter because of an actual or perceived**  
19                  **physical or mental impairment, whether or not the impairment limits or is**  
20                  **perceived to limit a major life activity; and**  
21                  (b) **Shall not apply to transitory and minor impairments;**  
22                  (18) **"To rent" means to lease, to sublease, to let, or otherwise to grant for a**  
23                  **consideration the right to occupy premises not owned by the occupant; and**  
24                  (19) **"Transitory impairment" means an impairment with an actual or expected**  
25                  **duration of six (6) months or less.**  
26                  → SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 344 IS CREATED TO  
27                  READ AS FOLLOWS:

1    **(1) As used in this section:**

2    **(a) "Ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses" means lenses that are intended to**  
3    **fully correct visual acuity or eliminate refractive error;**

4    **(b) "Low-vision devices" means devices that magnify, enhance, or otherwise**  
5    **augment a visual image; and**

6    **(c) "Auxiliary aids and services" includes:**

7    **1. Qualified interpreters or other effective methods of making aurally**  
8    **delivered materials available to individuals with hearing impairments;**

9    **2. Qualified readers, taped texts, or other effective methods of making**  
10   **visually delivered materials available to individuals with visual**  
11   **impairments;**

12   **3. Acquisition or modification of equipment or devices; and**

13   **4. Other similar services and actions.**

14   **(2) An impairment that substantially limits one (1) major life activity need not limit**  
15   **other major life activities to be considered a disability.**

16   **(3) An impairment that is episodic or in remission is a disability if it would**  
17   **substantially limit a major life activity when active.**

18   **(4) (a) The determination of whether an impairment substantially limits a major**  
19   **life activity shall be made without regard to the ameliorative effects of**  
20   **mitigating measures such as:**

21   **1. Medication, medical supplies, equipment, or appliances, low-vision**  
22   **devices not including ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses, prosthetics**  
23   **including limbs and devices, hearing aids and cochlear implants or**  
24   **other implantable hearing devices, mobility devices, or oxygen therapy**  
25   **equipment and supplies;**

26   **2. Use of assistive technology;**

27   **3. Reasonable accommodations or auxiliary aids or services; or**

1                   4. Learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications.

2                   (b) The ameliorative effects of the mitigating measures of ordinary eyeglasses  
3                   or contact lenses shall be considered in determining whether an impairment  
4                   substantially limits a major life activity.

5                   (5) An employer shall not be required to offer an accommodation to an employee  
6                   who is regarded as having such an impairment as defined in Section 1 of this Act.

7                   → Section 3. KRS 344.020 is amended to read as follows:

8                   (1) The general purposes of this chapter are:

9                   (a) To provide for execution within the Commonwealth[state] of the policies  
10                   embodied in the ~~Federal~~ Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352, as  
11                   amended[(78 Stat. 241)], Title VIII of the ~~Federal~~ Civil Rights Act of 1968,  
12                   Pub. L. No. 90-284, as amended[(82 Stat. 81)], the Fair Housing Act, Pub.  
13                   L. No. 90-284, as amended[(42 U.S.C. 360)], the ~~Federal~~ Age  
14                   Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, Pub. L. No. 90-202, as  
15                   amended[(81 Stat. 602)], the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub.  
16                   L. No. {(P.L. }101-336{)}, as amended, ~~and~~ the Civil Rights Act of 1991,  
17                   Pub. L. No. 102-166, as amended[(P.L. 102-166, amended by P.L. 102-  
18                   392)], and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008,  
19                   Pub. L. No. 110-325, as amended;

20                   (b) To safeguard all individuals within the Commonwealth[state] from  
21                   discrimination because of familial status, race, color, religion, national origin,  
22                   sex, age forty (40) and over, or because of the person's status as a qualified  
23                   individual with a disability as defined in KRS 344.010 and KRS 344.030;  
24                   thereby to protect their interest in personal dignity and freedom from  
25                   humiliation, to make available to the Commonwealth[state] their full  
26                   productive capacities, to secure the Commonwealth[state] against domestic  
27                   strife and unrest which would menace its democratic institutions, to preserve

1 the public safety, health, and general welfare, and to further the interest,  
2 rights, and privileges of individuals within the **Commonwealth**[state]; **and**

3 (c) To establish as the policy of the Commonwealth the safeguarding of the rights  
4 of an individual selling or leasing his or her primary residence through private  
5 sale without the aid of any real estate operator, broker, or  
6 salesperson[salesman] and without advertising or public display.

7 (2) This chapter shall be construed to further the general purposes stated in this section  
8 and the special purposes of the particular provision involved.

9 (3) [Nothing in ]This chapter shall not be construed as indicating an intent to exclude  
10 local laws on the same subject matter not inconsistent with this chapter.

11 (4) ~~{Nothing contained in }~~This chapter shall **not** be deemed to repeal any other law of  
12 this **Commonwealth**~~{state}~~ relating to discrimination because of familial status,  
13 race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age forty (40) and over, or because of the  
14 person's status as a qualified individual with a disability as defined in KRS 344.030.

15 ➔Section 4. KRS 344.030 is amended to read as follows:

16 For the purposes of KRS 344.030 to 344.110:

24           2. Shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the Americans with  
25           Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-325, as  
26           amended; and[.]

27 (b) Consideration shall be given to the employer's judgment as to what functions

1 of a job are essential, and if an employer has prepared a written description  
2 before advertising or interviewing applicants for the job, this description shall  
3 be considered evidence of the essential functions of the job;

4 (2) (a) **Except as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this subsection,** "employer"  
5 means a person who has eight (8) or more employees within the  
6 **Commonwealth**[state] in each of twenty (20) or more calendar weeks in the  
7 current or preceding calendar year and an agent of such a person;~~, except ]~~

8 (b) For purposes of determining accommodations for an employee's own  
9 limitations related to her pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions,  
10 "**employer**" means a person who has fifteen (15) or more employees within  
11 the **Commonwealth**[state] in each of twenty (20) or more calendar weeks in  
12 the current or preceding calendar year and any agent of the person;~~, and, except ]~~

14 (c) For purposes of determining discrimination based on disability, "**employer**":

15 **1.** Means a person engaged in an industry affecting commerce who has  
16 fifteen (15) or more employees for each working day in each of twenty  
17 (20) or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar year,  
18 and any agent of that person;~~, and, except that, for two (2) years~~  
19 ~~following July 14, 1992, an employer means a person engaged in an~~  
20 ~~industry affecting commerce who has twenty five (25) or more~~  
21 ~~employees for each working day in each of twenty (20) or more calendar~~  
22 ~~weeks in the current or preceding year, and any agent of that person. For~~  
23 ~~the purposes of determining discrimination based on disability,~~  
24 ~~employer ]~~

25 **2.** Shall not include:

26 **a. (a)]** The United States, a corporation wholly owned by the  
27 government of the United States, or an Indian tribe; or

1                   **b. [b]}**    A bona fide private membership club (other than a labor  
2                   organization) that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c) of  
3                   the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1986;

4   (3) "Employment agency" means a person regularly undertaking with or without  
5                   compensation to procure employees for an employer or to procure for employees  
6                   opportunities to work for an employer and includes an agent of the~~such~~ person;

7   (4) "Labor organization" means a labor organization and an agent of a labor~~such an~~  
8                   organization, and includes:  
9                   (a) An organization of any kind, an agency or employee representation  
10                   committee, group, association, or plan ~~so engaged~~ in which employees  
11                   participate and which exists for the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing  
12                   with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay,  
13                   hours, or other terms or conditions of employment;~~]~~ and  
14                   (b) A conference, general committee, joint or system board, or joint council ~~so~~  
15                   ~~engaged which is~~ subordinate to a national or international labor  
16                   organization;

17   (5) (a) "Employee" means an individual employed by an employer, but does not  
18                   include an individual employed by his or her parents, spouse, or child, or an  
19                   individual employed to render services as a domestic in the home of the  
20                   employer;~~]~~  
21                   (b) Notwithstanding any voluntary agreement entered into between the United  
22                   States Department of Labor and a franchisee, neither a franchisee nor a  
23                   franchisee's employee shall be deemed to be an employee of the franchisor for  
24                   any purpose under this chapter;~~]~~  
25                   (c) Notwithstanding any voluntary agreement entered into between the United  
26                   States Department of Labor and a franchisor, neither a franchisor nor a  
27                   franchisor's employee shall be deemed to be an employee of the franchisee for

any purpose under this chapter; and .

(d) For purposes of this subsection, "franchisee" and "franchisor" have the same meanings as in 16 C.F.R. sec. 436.1;

(6) "Reasonable accommodation":

(a) Means making existing facilities used by employees readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, job restructuring, part-time or modified work schedules, reassignment to a vacant position, acquisition or modification of equipment or devices, appropriate adjustment or modifications of examinations, training materials or policies, the provision of qualified readers or interpreters, and other similar accommodations for individuals with disabilities; and

(b) For an employee's own limitations related to her pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, may include more frequent or longer breaks, time off to recover from childbirth, acquisition or modification of equipment, appropriate seating, temporary transfer to a less strenuous or less hazardous position, job restructuring, light duty, modified work schedule, and private space that is not a bathroom for expressing breast milk;

(7) "Religion" means all aspects of religious observance and practice, as well as belief, unless an employer demonstrates that he or she is unable to reasonably accommodate to an employee's or prospective employee's religious observance or practice without undue hardship on the conduct of the employer's business;

(8) (a) The terms "because of sex" and "on the basis of sex" include but are not limited to because of or on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, and women affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions shall be treated the same for all employment-related purposes, including receipt of benefits under fringe benefit programs, as other persons not so affected but similar in their ability or inability to work.

(b) "Related medical condition" includes but is not limited to lactation or the need to express breast milk for a nursing child and has the same meaning as in the Pregnancy Discrimination Act, 42 U.S.C. sec. 2000e(k), and shall be construed as that term has been construed under that Act; and

(9) "Undue hardship," for purposes of disability discrimination or limitations due to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions as described in KRS 344.040(1)(c), means an action requiring significant difficulty or expense, when considered in light of the following factors:

- (a) The nature and cost of the accommodation needed;
- (b) The overall financial resources of the facility or facilities involved in the provision of the reasonable accommodation; the number of persons employed at the facility; the effect on expenses and resources; or the impact otherwise of the~~such~~ accommodation upon the operation of the facility;
- (c) The overall financial resources of the covered entity; the overall size of the business of a covered entity with respect to the number of its employees; and the number, type, and location of its facilities;
- (d) The type of operation or operations of the covered entity, including the composition, structure, and functions of the workforce of such entity; the geographic separateness, administrative, or fiscal relationship of the facility or facilities in question to the covered entity; and
- (e) In addition to paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection, for pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, the following factors:
  1. The duration of the requested accommodation; and
  2. Whether similar accommodations are required by policy to be made, have been made, or are being made for other employees for~~due to~~ any reason.

1    In the enforcement of this chapter, the commission ~~on Human Rights~~ shall have the  
2    following powers and duties:

3    (1) To maintain an office in the city of Louisville and other offices within the  
4    Commonwealth~~state~~ as may be deemed necessary;[.]

5    (2) To meet and exercise its powers at any place within the Commonwealth;[.]

6    (3) Within the limitations provided by law, to appoint an executive director, attorneys,  
7    hearing examiners, clerks, and other employees and agents as it may deem  
8    necessary. At the direction of the commission, attorneys appointed under this  
9    section may appear for and represent the commission in any court. The commission  
10   may, by written order, delegate the authority given by this subsection to its  
11   executive director, except as that authority relates to the appointment of its  
12   executive director;[.]

13   (4) To promote the creation of local commissions on human rights, to cooperate with  
14   state, local, and other agencies, both public and private, and individuals, and to  
15   obtain upon request and utilize the services of all governmental departments and  
16   agencies;[.]

17   (5) To cooperate with the ~~United States~~ Equal Employment Opportunity Commission,  
18   created by ~~Section 705 of~~ the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352 ~~(78~~  
19   ~~Stat. 241)~~, ~~in order to achieve the purposes of that act,~~ and with other federal and  
20   local agencies in order to achieve the purposes of that act, and with other federal  
21   and local agencies in order to achieve the purposes of this chapter;[.]

22   (6) To accept gifts or bequests, grants, or other payments, public or private, to help  
23   finance its activities;[.]

24   (7) To accept reimbursement pursuant to Section 709(b) of the Civil Rights Act of  
25   1964, Pub. L. No. 88-352 ~~(78 Stat. 241)~~ for services rendered to assist the  
26   ~~Federal~~ Equal Employment Opportunity Commission;[.]

27   (8) To receive, initiate, investigate, and seek to conciliate~~, hold hearings on, and pass~~

1       upon] complaints alleging violations of this chapter;[.]

2       (9) To seek relief against unlawful practices in employment and public  
3       accommodations as provided in Section 6 of this Act;

4       (10) To exercise the powers conferred in KRS 344.600 to 344.680 with respect to  
5       unlawful practices in housing;

6       (11)[(9)] At any time after a complaint is filed, to require answers to interrogatories,  
7       compel the attendance of witnesses, examine witnesses under oath or affirmation in  
8       person or by deposition, and require the production of documents relevant to the  
9       complaint. The commission may make rules authorizing any member or individual  
10      designated to exercise these powers in the performance of official duties;[.]

11      (12)[(10)] To furnish technical assistance requested by persons subject to this chapter to  
12      further their compliance with this chapter or an order issued thereunder;[.]

13      (13)[(11)] To make studies appropriate to effectuate the purposes and policies of this  
14      chapter and to make the results thereof available to the public;[.]

15      (14)[(12)] To render annual written reports to the Governor and the Legislative  
16      Research Commission for referral to the Interim Joint Committee on  
17      Judiciary[Legislature]. The reports may contain recommendations of the  
18      commission for legislative or other action to effectuate the purposes and policies of  
19      this chapter;[.]

20      (15)[(13)] To create local or statewide advisory agencies that in its judgment will aid in  
21      effectuating the purpose of this chapter. The commission may empower these  
22      agencies:

23       (a) To study and report on problems of discrimination because of familial status,  
24       race, color, religion, [or ]national origin, sex, age forty (40) and over, or a  
25       person's status as a qualified individual with a disability;[.]

26       (b) To foster, through community effort or otherwise, goodwill among the groups  
27       and elements of the population of the Commonwealth;[state,] and

7       (16){(14)} To ~~adopt, promulgate, amend, and rescind~~ **administrative** regulations **in**  
8           **accordance with KRS Chapter 13A** to effectuate the purposes and provisions of  
9           this chapter, including regulations requiring the posting of notices prepared or  
10          approved by the commission; **and**{.}

11 (17)[(15)] To purchase liability insurance for the protection of all members of the  
12 commission to protect them from liability arising in the course of pursuing their  
13 duties as members of the commission and for all full-time employees to protect  
14 them from liability arising in the course or scope of their employment. This  
15 insurance shall be purchased with money contained in the agency's[agency]  
16 appropriated budget.

17 ➔Section 6. KRS 344.200 is amended to read as follows:

18 (1) **(a)** An individual claiming to be aggrieved by an unlawful practice other than a  
19 discriminatory housing practice, a member of the commission, or the Attorney  
20 General may file with the commission a written sworn complaint stating that  
21 an unlawful practice has been committed, setting forth the facts upon which  
22 the complaint is based, and setting forth facts sufficient to enable the  
23 commission to identify the ~~persons charged (referred to as the) respondent~~  
24 in this section, ~~KRS 344.210, 344.230, and 344.240~~]. The commission shall  
25 make reasonable accommodations to assist persons with disabilities in filing a  
26 written sworn complaint. The commission staff or a person designated  
27 pursuant to its administrative regulations shall promptly investigate the

1 allegations of unlawful practice set forth in the complaint and shall within five  
2 (5) days furnish the respondent with a copy of the complaint. The complaint  
3 must be filed within one hundred eighty (180) days after the alleged unlawful  
4 practice occurs.

9 (2) **(a)** The commission or an individual designated pursuant to its administrative  
10 regulations shall determine ~~within thirty (30) days after the complaint has~~  
11 ~~been filed~~}whether there is probable cause to believe the respondent has  
12 engaged in an unlawful practice ***within thirty (30) days after either:***

13                   1. *Receipt of the respondent's response to the complaint; or*

14                   2.     *The time for submission of the respondent's response has expired.*

15        **(b)** If it is determined that there is no probable cause to believe that the  
16           respondent has engaged in an unlawful practice:

17 1. The commission shall:

20                   **b.** Furnish a copy of the order to the complainant[,] and the  
21                   respondent; and[, the Attorney General, and any other public  
22                   officers and persons that the commission deems proper]

23        2. An individual claiming to be aggrieved by an unlawful practice other  
24        than a discriminatory housing practice may file a civil cause of action  
25        in Circuit Court pursuant to KRS 344.450 asserting a claim arising  
26        from the same facts or circumstances while the complaint is pending  
27        before the commission or after its dismissal by the commission.

1    (3) *Neither the filing of the complaint with the commission nor its investigation by or*  
2    *pendency before the commission shall operate to toll or suspend the running of a*  
3    *statute of limitations under KRS 413.115 or any other statute.* [The complainant,  
4    within ten (10) days after receiving a copy of the order dismissing the complaint,  
5    may file with the commission an application for reconsideration of the order. Upon  
6    receiving a reconsideration application, the commission or an individual designated  
7    pursuant to administrative regulation shall make a new determination within ten  
8    (10) days whether there is probable cause to believe that the respondent has  
9    engaged in an unlawful practice. If it is determined that there is no probable cause  
10   to believe that the respondent has engaged in an unlawful practice, the commission  
11   shall issue an order dismissing the complaint and furnishing a copy of the order to  
12   the complainant, the respondent, the Attorney General, and any other public officers  
13   and persons that the commission deems proper.]

14   (4) (a) If the commission [staff] determines[,] after investigation[,] or if the  
15   commission determines after the review provided for in subsection (3) of this  
16   section] that there is probable cause to believe that the respondent has  
17   engaged in an unlawful practice, the commission [staff] shall endeavor to  
18   eliminate the alleged unlawful practice by conference, conciliation, and  
19   persuasion.

20   (b) The terms of a conciliation agreement reached with a respondent may require  
21   him or her to refrain from the commission of unlawful discriminatory  
22   practices in the future and make any further provisions as may be agreed upon  
23   between the commission or its staff and the respondent.

24   (c) If a conciliation agreement is entered into, the commission shall issue and  
25   serve on the complainant an order stating its terms. A copy of the order shall  
26   be delivered to the respondent[, the Attorney General, and any other public  
27   officers and persons that the commission deems proper].

1           (d) Except for the terms of the conciliation agreement, neither the commission  
2           nor any officer or employee thereof shall make public, without the written  
3           consent of the complainant and the respondent, information concerning efforts  
4           in a particular case to eliminate an unlawful practice by conference,  
5           conciliation, or persuasion whether or not there is a determination of probable  
6           cause or a conciliation agreement.

7           (5) At the expiration of one (1) year from the date of a conciliation agreement, and at  
8           other times in its reasonable discretion, the commission staff may investigate  
9           whether the terms of the agreement have been and are being complied with by the  
10           respondent. Upon a finding that the terms of the agreement are not being complied  
11           with by the respondent, the commission shall take whatever action it deems  
12           appropriate to assure compliance.

13           (6) (a) At any time after a complaint is filed, the commission may file an action in  
14           the Circuit Court in a county in which the subject of the complaint occurs, or  
15           in a county in which a respondent resides or has his or her principal place of  
16           business, seeking appropriate ~~temporary~~ relief against the respondent on  
17           behalf of a private party who has not previously filed a civil cause of action  
18           for the same grievance, pending final determination of proceedings  
19           including an order or decree restraining him from doing or procuring any act  
20           tending to render ineffectual any order the commission may enter with respect  
21           to the complaint. The court shall have power to grant temporary relief or a  
22           restraining order as it deems just and proper. An action filed under this  
23           paragraph shall be subject to the statute of limitations in KRS 413.115.

24           (b) The commission's filing of an action under paragraph (a) of this subsection  
25           shall prevent the aggrieved private party from filing a civil cause of action  
26           pursuant to KRS 344.450 arising from the same facts or circumstances. The  
27           aggrieved private party may, however, intervene in the action filed by the

### commission.

(c) The court shall dismiss a civil action filed by the commission if the aggrieved individual previously filed an action arising from the same set of facts or circumstances pursuant to KRS 344.450. The commission may intervene in the previously filed action provided the plaintiff consents in writing to the intervention.

*(d) In any civil action filed under this section, the commission:*

*1. Shall not be entitled to recover:*

*a. Its own litigation costs or attorney's fees; or*

*b. Monetary penalties; and*

2. May request appropriate relief for the aggrieved private party on whose behalf the action was filed, not to exceed the remedies in KRS 344.450.

(e) A jury shall decide all matters triable by jury at common law, including without limitation questions of fact, questions of liability, and monetary damages.

(7) Notwithstanding KRS 413.115, subsection (6) of this section, or any other law to the contrary, a private party:

19                   (a) Who claims to be aggrieved by a practice that is unlawful under this  
20                   chapter, other than a discriminatory housing practice:

21                   **(b) Who timely filed his or her complaint with the commission prior to the**  
22                   **effective date of this Act; and**

may file a civil cause of action in Circuit Court pursuant to KRS 344.450 not later than one (1) year after the effective date of this Act. The filing of such an action shall be deemed timely and shall not be barred by a statute of limitations

1        *that would otherwise apply.*

2        (8) ~~[Nothing in ]~~This section shall not apply to any discriminatory housing practice.

3            ➔Section 7. KRS 344.320 is amended to read as follows:

4        A local commission may be authorized to:

5        (1) ~~[Receive, initiate, investigate, hear, and determine charges]~~**Investigate complaints**  
6        of violations of ordinances, orders, or resolutions forbidding discrimination adopted  
7        by the city or county:~~[.]~~

8        (2) ~~[Compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of evidence before it by  
9        subpoena issued by the Circuit Court of the county wherein the local commission is  
10        authorized to act.]~~

11        (3) ~~Issue remedial orders, after notice and hearing, requiring cessation of violations.~~

12        (4) ~~Issue such affirmative orders as in the judgment of the local commission will carry  
13        out the purposes of this chapter. Affirmative action ordered may include but is not  
14        limited to the remedies enumerated in subsection (3) of KRS 344.230.~~

15        (5) ~~]Employ an executive director, attorneys, [hearing examiners, clerks] and other  
16        employees and agents; and~~[.]~~~~

17        (3)¶(6)} Accept grants, gifts, or bequests, public or private to help finance its activities.

18            ➔Section 8. KRS 344.635 is amended to read as follows:

19        (1) When a discriminatory housing charge is filed under KRS 344.625, a complainant,  
20        a respondent, or the aggrieved person on whose behalf the complaint is filed~~[,]~~  
21        may:

22        (a) Elect to have the claims asserted in that charge decided in a civil action under  
23        KRS 344.670~~[,]~~ in lieu of an administrative hearing before the commission  
24        under KRS 344.640;and

25        (b) **Demand a trial by jury if the civil action is elected.**

26        (2)¶(1)} The election shall be made not later than twenty (20) days after the receipt by  
27        the electing person of service under KRS 344.630~~[, from the commission or, in the~~

1       ~~case of the commission, not later than twenty (20) days after service to the~~  
2       ~~respondent and complainant].~~

3       ~~(3)(2)~~ The person making the election shall give written notice of *the election*~~[doing~~  
4       ~~so]~~ to the commission~~[and to all other complainants and respondents to whom the~~  
5       ~~charge relates].~~

6       ➔ Section 9. KRS 344.660 is amended to read as follows:

7       (1) In a civil action under KRS 344.650, if the Circuit Court finds that a discriminatory  
8       housing practice has occurred or is about to occur, the Circuit Court may award to  
9       the plaintiff actual and punitive damages, and subject to subsection (3) of this  
10      section, may grant *other*~~[as]~~ relief~~[,]~~ as the court deems appropriate, *including*:

11      (a) *The issuance of* any:

12       *1.* Permanent or temporary injunction~~[,]~~  
13       *2.* Restraining order~~[, or ]~~  
14       *3.* Other order~~[,]~~ including an order enjoining the defendant from engaging  
15       in the *discriminatory* practice~~[,]~~ or

16      (b) Ordering affirmative action as appropriate.

17      (2) In a civil action under KRS ~~[344.240, ]344.650[,~~ or 344.665, the court~~[,]~~ in its  
18      discretion~~[,]~~ may award the prevailing complainant~~[,]~~ a reasonable  
19      *attorney's*~~[attorneys']~~ fee and costs. The court~~[,]~~ in its discretion~~[,]~~ may award the  
20      prevailing respondent a reasonable *attorney's*~~[attorneys']~~ fee and costs if the  
21      respondent establishes that the complaint upon which the action was based was  
22      brought in bad faith. Whether a party has committed bad faith shall be determined  
23      in accordance with Rule 11 of the Kentucky Rules of Civil Procedure. The  
24      *Commonwealth*~~[state]~~ shall not be liable in any event for fees and costs.

25      (3) ~~[However, no ]~~Relief provided under this section shall *not affect*~~[effect]~~ any  
26      contract, sale, encumbrance, or lease:

27      (a) Consummated before the granting of that relief~~[,]~~ and

1       **(b)** Involving a bona fide purchaser, encumbrancer, or tenant; ~~or~~  
2       without actual notice of either the filing of the complaint of a discriminatory  
3       housing practice complaint with the commission or the filing of a civil action.

4 ➔Section 10. KRS 344.675 is amended to read as follows:

5 (1) In any administrative proceeding brought under KRS 344.640 or 344.645 or any  
6 court proceeding arising therefrom, ~~including actions described in KRS 344.240 or~~  
7 ~~any civil action,~~ the commission or the court, as the case may be, upon application  
8 of either party~~,~~ and in its discretion, may:

9 (a) Appoint an attorney for the person; or

10 (b) Award a reasonable attorney's[attorneys'] fee and costs to the prevailing party  
11 to the same extent allowed in KRS 344.660, or both. The  
12 **Commonwealth**[state] shall not be liable in any event for fees and costs.

13 (2) The Commonwealth[state] through the commission's attorney or the Attorney  
14 General shall maintain any civil action on behalf of the complainant or aggrieved  
15 party.

16 (3) Where the parties to an alleged discriminatory housing practice have elected an  
17 administrative determination rather than a civil adjudication, the commission staff  
18 attorney shall represent the complainant or aggrieved party before the commission.

19 ➔ Section 11. The following KRS sections are repealed:

20 344.210 Notice of complaint -- Hearing procedures.

21 344 230 Orders of commission -- Nature of affirmative action

22 344.240 Scope of and procedure for judicial review --Hearing -- Appeal.

23 344.270 Commission or court not to take jurisdiction over claim for unlawful practice  
24 while claim pending before the other body -- Final determination exclusive.

25 344-340 Enforcement of local commission orders