



However, if the ground is not altered but equipment is replaced, the ADA may not require resurfacing. The ADA does not specifically require a wheelchair swing, thus including a wheelchair swing and an accessible surface leading to it would be additional costs under the bill.

Counties have several options to provide for parks and recreation services. Counties may work with a city or school board in the provision of its parks and recreation system under KRS 97.010 and 97.035. Counties may form a regional park authority under KRS 97.095. These arrangements may provide opportunity for sharing of costs associated with a playground. They may also apply for grants up to \$500,000 (or up to 50% of the project's cost) to establish local parks and recreation facilities under KRS 147A.028. Additionally, certain nonprofit organizations may offer assistance for the purchase of accessible equipment.

A current price for a new wheelchair swing platform and pull-chair attachment (to be attached to an existing swing frame) at AAA State of Play is about \$1,200. A complete wheelchair swing with frame would cost approximately \$1,700. A 19' rubber mat leading from a sidewalk to the swing costs \$1,550; a concrete underlay would be an additional cost. A different design from TherAdapt would cost \$1,499 (not including the surfacing). The cost can be higher depending on the supplier and design. Costs may be higher if the swing is to accommodate a powered wheelchair.

The Kentucky Association of Counties reported that the bill could have a minimal to moderate impact on counties.

The Kentucky League of Cities reported that the cost of a wheelchair swing could range from \$1,600 to \$2,500, and that, depending on the scope of surfacing, the cost for a poured-in-place surface could be \$45,000. Ongoing maintenance is expensive because the surface under the equipment may deteriorate more quickly. There is also concern about creating tripping and other safety hazards for all playground participants. Finally, there is concern that some cities may not continue maintenance of playgrounds because of newer investments within the city rather than invest in playground improvements.

### **Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions**

Part II, above, refers to the bill as introduced.

**Data Source(s):** LRC staff; Kentucky League of Cities; Kentucky Recreation and Parks Society; Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and ADA Standards for Accessible Design (2010); Kentucky Association of Counties; <http://accessadvocates.com/ada-compliance-for-playgrounds/> (accessed February 11, 2020); County Government in Kentucky, LRC Informational Bulletin No. 115 (rev. 2019); <https://www.aaastateofplay.com/wheelchair-swing-platform/>; <https://www.theradapt.com/Store/ShowProduct.aspx?ID=3780>

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