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**Published on Wednesdays by** 

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**Subscription Prices** 

Estill \$20, Adj. Counties \$31, Elsewhere \$35 Periodicals Postage Paid, Irvine, KY 40336 (Permit #685-890)

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to: The Estill Co. Tribune, 6135 Winchester Rd. **Irvine, Kentucky 40336-8517** 



This Week at the State Capitol - March 8-12, 2021

## Only two days but busiest days so far this year

tives convened only two days this week. But in terms cation Committee and now goes to the full Senate. of bills passed and the number of hours spent debating legislation, they were two of the busiest legislative days so far this year.

Bills that took steps forward in the Kentucky General Assembly this week include measures on the following topics:

**Newborn protection.** House Bill 155 would allow the use of a "newborn safety device" when a newborn is being anonymously surrendered by a parent at a participating staffed police station, fire station, or hospital. The device would allow a parent planning to surrender an infant to do so safely using a receptacle that would trigger an alarm once a newborn is placed inside so that medical care providers could immediately respond and provide care to the child. The bill, which was already approved by the House, was approved this week by the Senate Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection Committee and now goes to the full Senate.

**Fish and wildlife.** House Bill 394 would ensure that the state's Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission would have sole authority to appoint the commissioner of the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. The bill was approved by the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee and now goes to the full Senate for consideration.

**Administrative regulations.** Senate Bill 65 would nullify administrative regulations that took effect after being found deficient by lawmakers last year during the legislative interim, the period of time between regular sessions of the General Assembly. The bill passed the House Licensing and Occupations Committee and now awaits consideration by the full House.

**School choice.** House Bill 563 would give families more options when making decisions about schools. The bill would allow students to use education opportunity accounts, a type of scholarship, to attend a public school outside of his or her district. Individuals or businesses who donate to organizations that issue education opportunity accounts would be eligible for a tax credit. Under an amendment to the bill, the provisions of the legislation dealing with using education opportunity accounts for private school tuition would apply only to students in Kentucky's most populous counties —Jefferson, Fayette and Kenton Counties. Another amendment to the bill would allow the state to fund full-day kindergarten for every public school district in the commonwealth. This bill passed the House 51-45 and now goes to the Senate.

**Capitol security.** Senate Bill 227 would require Kentucky State Police to brief the leadership of the General Assembly and the Legislative Research Commission on security matters relating to the Capitol campus. The bill was approved by the House 91-0. It now goes back to the Senate for consideration of a House amendment to the bill.

No-knock warrants. Senate Bill 4 would limit and set guidelines for the use of no-knock warrants, which allow officers to enter a premises without notice. Under the legislation, such warrants would be allowed in limited instances if someone was in immediate danger or in other cases, such as those involving violent crimes or terrorism. These warrants would have to be executed by a SWAT team or a team with special training. The bill would also specify in statute that it would be perjury if an officer made a false statement in an application for a no-knock warrant. The bill, which already passed the Senate, was approved this week by the House Judiciary Committee and now goes before the full

**Scholarships.** House Bill 25 would expand access to Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarships by

The Kentucky Senate and House of Representa- from being eligible. The bill passed the Senate Edu-

**Probation and parole.** House Bill 440 would allow meetings with probation or parole officers required under the terms of a person's probation or parole to be conducted via videoconference. The bill passed the Senate Judiciary Committee and now goes to the full Senate.

**Public safety.** Senate Bill 211 would increase the punishment for crimes committed during a riot. It would provide consequences for local governments who are grossly negligent for failing to protect public safety and property. The bill includes sections intended to discourage local governments from attempts to defund law enforcement agencies and to prevent taunting a police officer in a way that "would have a direct tendency to provoke a violent response from the perspective of a reasonable and prudent person." The bill also specifies situations in which a person would be guilty of unlawful camping on state property. The bill passed the Senate 22-11 and now goes to the House for consideration.

School breakfasts. House Bill 384 would allow a school that participates in the Federal School Breakfast Program to authorize up to 15 minutes of the student attendance day to provide the opportunity for children to eat breakfast during instructional time. The bill passed the Senate Education Committee and now goes to the full Senate.

See Kentucky Legislature on Page 5

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# Maudie's Naughties

**Painless Dentistry** 

Esmerelda goes to the dentist for the first time in many years. As the dentist leans over to begin working on her, she reaches out and grabs him by his crotch.

"What are you doing?" says the surprised den-

She replies, "Well, we're going to be careful not to hurt each other, aren't we?

#### **Applying for a Bank Loan**

Howard Green and Junior decide they want to get a moped, so they go to the bank and ask to see someone about a loan. "I'm sorry," says a cashier, "The loan arranger is

After a pause, Howard replies, "Can we speak to

Tonto, then?"

They return after lunch and are applying for a loan with the credit manager who asks them if they know how much money they have in the bank.

"I don't know exactly," says Junior, "I haven't shaken it lately."

### **Drunk and Disorderly**

Three men stand before a judge on a charge of drunk and disorderly conduct in a public park.

The judge asks the first man, "What were you doing?

"Oh, just throwing peanuts in the pond."

"And, what were you doing?" the judge asks the 2nd man.

"I was throwing peanuts in the pond, too."

"That sounds harmless," says the judge. "And you," he says to the third man, "Were you throwing peanuts in the pond as well?"

"I'm Peanuts!"

### Not Rich Like Jack

"I'm not rich like Jack, don't have a mansion like Tom or have a Porsche like Martin, but I love you and want to marry you."

"I love you too, but what was that you said about Martin!"

#### First X-Ray

Esmerelda comes to the hospital for a check-up. "Have you ever been x-rayed?" asks the doctor. "Nope," she replies, "But ah've been ultra-violated."

#### **Fetching Spring Water**

One day Ma sends Little Billy down to the spring to get some fresh drinking water. When he goes to dip the bucket in the spring, two big eyes are staring back at him, so he drops the bucket and goes running back to the house.

"I can't get any water from that spring," he tells Ma. "There's an alligator in there."

"Don't worry about him," says Ma. "He's been in the spring for several years. He's probably as scared of you as you are of him."

"Well," replies Little Billy, "If he did on himself what I did on me, you don't want to drink that water!"

#### Mother-In-Law's Birthday

A husband and wife are shopping when the wife says, "Darling, it's my mother's birthday tomorrow. What shall we buy for her? She would like something electric."

The husband replies, "How about a chair?!?"

#### **Bedbugs In Love** Two bedbugs fall in love! They get married in

the spring. **Mother-In-Law** Two cannibals just finish a big meal, and one turns to the other while rubbing his stomach with

his fist and says, "You know, I just ate my mother-inlaw, and she still doesn't agree with me!"

Owlhead's Grocery South Irvine \* Phone 723-7473 Donald & Katherine Dixon, Owners We're open until 10:00 p.m. removing a provision that prevents convicted felons