

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill	Red CW 29						
	Referred to Committee: House 2						
Authors: Luke Edward, Jake Funk, Tyler Forrest, Otavio Menezes	Action on the Bill <table> <tr> <td>House</td> <td>Senate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> </tr> </table>	House	Senate	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
House		Senate					
___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed		___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed					
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School: Oldham Co. HS							
City: LaGrange							

1 An act to stimulate Kentucky’s economy through a renewable portfolio.

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3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

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5 Section 1: Currently coal is the state’s main source of energy. However, coal is a dying form of energy.
6 This bill will try to take the burden off the coal industry while simultaneously improving the education,
7 economy, and environment in Kentucky.

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9 Section 2: This bill proposes Kentucky to become a Renewable Portfolio State(RPS). An RPS sets a
10 specific percentage of clean energy production as a goal by a certain year. As an RPS, Kentucky will
11 attempt to achieve 20% clean energy production by the year 2030, thus providing the initiation for the
12 transition from the wilting and polluting industry of coal to the clean future of renewable energy.

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14 Section 3: If passed, this bill will reform the job structure mainly in coal dependent regions. As coal
15 production is gradually phased out, this bill will provide an education grant to the former coal-miners
16 or any of those interested, which allows them to earn a 2-year associate’s degree in the corresponding
17 renewable-energy field. This degree will allow former miners and others to work in renewable energy
18 plants. For those who do not have a high school diploma, there will be funds for a GED preparation
19 course, which will feed into less skilled support jobs in the power plants or will allow them to continue
20 on with an associate’s degree.

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22 Section 4: Funding for this bill will come from multiple sources. RPS grants and the US Department of
23 Energy loan guarantee program will provide funds to initiate the program. We will then offer local
24 power companies an agreement for them to construct and maintain the new, renewable energy plants
25 in return for a 5-year tax break, the approximate time it should take for this bill to demonstrate
26 significant effects.

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28 Section 5: Theoretically, it costs about \$2 million to construct a 500 kW hydroelectric plant, which
29 would produce 4,380,000 kW/ year. Kentucky currently consumes 59,200,550 kW per year and
30 produces 68,705,000 kW / year. We would need four of the previously mentioned power plants to
31 meet the 20% RPS goal by 2030.

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33 Section 6: To help pay off the loans, the excess energy would be sold to neighboring states such as
34 Virginia, West Virginia, and Tennessee. As Kentucky changes its economic identity with renewable
35 energy, the state will earn more from taxes as this industry increases. Overtime, as the tax breaks
36 expire, the state will be able to payback these loans and perhaps fund their own projects in the future.