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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION **KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY** Commonwealth Bill

Red | CW 17

Referred to Committee: House 1

Action on the Bill

Authors: Emma Stevenson, Savanah Anderson, Rachel Blevins	Action on the Bill	
School: Franklin Co. HS	House	Senate
	Passed	🗆 Passed
City: Frankfort	Defeated	Defeated

An act to make targeting first responders a hate crime - Blue Lives Matter

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

Section 1: Kentucky's hate-crime law, which already includes protections for race, color, religion, sexual orientation and national origin, will now also include police officers, firefighters and emergency medical services personnel and make them a protected class.

Section 2: By classifying the targeting of public safety workers as a hate crime, it will give judges more leeway to impose tougher sentences. This law would change the state's criminal code to enhance certain penalties when an officer is the target of violence, even if that officer is not on the clock. It would become a felony to threaten a specific law enforcement agency or other emergency personnel.

Section 3: If a first responder is attacked in a way where premeditation is confirmed or there's evidence that a suspect had said, posted to social media, or demonstrated extreme negative speech or hatred toward another person, or group, then they will be subject to an additional charge of a hate crime and receive up to 5 years of additional sentence.

Section 4: This law may also punish protesters who seriously damage a police car or trespass during a demonstration against police brutality.

Section 5: Police officers are still responsible for their actions under Kentucky law and are not immune from prosecution by the Kentucky State Police or the Justice Department. Police officers and First Responders will continue to be investigated for any allegations of wrong doing that occur on the job.

Section 6: Financing of will not change in our judicial system due to the passage of this bill

Section 7: Upon passage, this bill will immediately go into effect in January 2017.