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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Commonwealth Bill

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Referred to Committee: House 3

Authors: Valerie Newberg, becca Armstrong, Jasmine brown	Action o	n the bill
School: Lafayette HS	House	Senate
	🗆 Passed	🗆 Passed
City: Lexington	Defeated	Defeated

An act to increase the safety of foster homes in the state of Kentucky

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

Section 1: This bill aims to provide requirements for the quality of foster families/ foster homes as to increase the quality of care and life for foster children across Kentucky.

Section 2: Inspections of foster homes will continue to be performed by licensed social workers already employed at the foster care agencies. The frequency of these inspections will increase to one inspection randomly placed within 3-4 months of the previous one. The consequences of failing an inspection will follow previously established procedures:

- Loss of fostering license
- Cannot work with children
- Possible criminal charges

Section 3: Foster families and people living in homes with foster children must not be allowed to smoke nicotine products (e-cigarettes, cigarettes, pipes, cigars, etc.) in the presence of foster children, in foster homes, or in vehicles used to transport foster children. If firearms are present in the home, they must be locked away from accessibility by foster children in cabinets, gun safes, or other containers. Ammunition must be kept separate from firearms. Foster parent (s) must participate in annual first aid training, provided by the foster care agency, which is to include, but is not limited to the teaching of CPR and fire prevention and safety. In addition, the foster home must be equipped with a portable, working fire extinguisher.

Section 4: The allocation of funds required for the passage of this bill will be obtained from already existing grants by the Children's Bureau. This bill will be enacted the year after the bill is passed and will apply to all foster homes and future foster homes in the state of Kentucky.