KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION **KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY** **Bluegrass Bill**	**Red | BG 11** **Referred to Committee:** **House 2**
Authors: Olivia Pierce, Lakyn Stearns, Rachel Webb, Natalie Williams	**Action on the Bill**
School: Russell Co. MS	**House** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated **Senate** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated
City: Russell Springs	

An act to permanently terminate all current and future custody rights of Kentucky who have had children removed from their homes.

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

Section 1: Each year, more than three million cases of child abuse are reported. Child abuse harms each child exposed to it. Whether it be mentally, when a parent verbally abuses a child; physical abuse, when a parent leaves visible scratches, bruises, or broken bones on their child after they harm them; neglect, a type of abuse that occurs when a parent refuses or fails to provide for their child's most basic needs; or sexual abuse, when an adult or older adolescent uses a child for sexual stimulation. No matter the case, abuse is all around us.

Section 2: Approximately five children die each day because of child abuse. If we don't come up with a solution for this, this number will unfortunately rise rapidly. When a child is taken away from their parent(s), the parent(s) can gain custody of them again over 50% of the time which allows them to abuse their child further. Children will also be affected by abuse in the future because of their parents impact on them now. In the end, innocent children will become abused and impacted for life because of their abusive parents.

Section 3: 1,825 children deaths are caused annually by their own parents and this is atrocious. Countless others are negatively affected for their entire lives. We would like to put an end to Kentucky parental rights after children have been removed from their custody. This would lessen the number of deaths because this would take away the chance of the parents abusing their child again, after the the child is taken away. The child will go to a foster family already prepared and provided.

Section 4: The additional costs would be paying foster families for taking the child into their custody. Foster families are paid based on how much the child has to have in order to survive. They could be paid $9,125 per year, or they could be paid $2,000; it all depends on the child's needs. The government already covers these payments, so there will be no additional taxes.

Section 5: This will go into effect January 1st, 2017.