KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION

KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY
Premiere Bill

Blue | Bill # P2

Referred to Committee:
Senate 1

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City: Shelbyville

Action on the Bill

House	Senate
____ ☐ Passed	____ ☐ Passed
____ ☐ Defeated	____ ☐ Defeated

An act to Increase the Kentucky Education Budget for K-12 Public Schools to Provide for Classroom Supplies.

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

Section 1: Kentucky has cut the education budget for public K-12 education by 11.4 percent between 2008 and 2015 after accounting for inflation. That ranks Kentucky 37th out of 47 states in per student spending. The budget has included even deeper cuts in state funds to schools for classroom supplies. Federal budget cuts due to sequestration has reduce the amount of money provided to local school districts even further. This year, Kentucky's per student spending is $561 below spending before the recession in 2008. These budget reductions have hindered school districts' ability to deliver high quality education, especially in regards to having the proper classroom environment and supplies for learning. Our bill will increase the money provided to schools to provide for badly needed classroom supplies.

Section 2: One percent of the state tax will be used to fund this bill, which will be approximately 11.5 million dollars. Schools will get funds based on the number of students they serve. There are 675,530 public school students in Kentucky, so each school will receive $17.00 per student. The Kentucky Department of Education will distribute the money to the school districts. This will provide funds for schools to use for classroom supplies such as books, devices such as iPads, paper, pencils, chairs and desks, etc. The local school districts will decide which supplies to spend the money on, but it must be spent on supplies used by the students in the classroom.

Section 3: One percent of the taxes collected by the state will be used to fund this bill. School districts will provide an account of how the money was spend on classroom supplies to the Kentucky State Department of Education. If the money was spent on something other that classroom supplies that the students will use, the money must be paid back to the Kentucky Department of Education at the end of the year.

Section 4: This bill will take effect at the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year.