

HOW DID YOUR LEGISLATOR VOTE?

Hundreds of bills are introduced each legislative session with a large percentage devoted to health care issues. The decisions legislators make relating to these issues have a significant impact on the practice of medicine. As the only statewide association that represents all physicians and patients before the Kentucky General Assembly, the Kentucky Medical Association (KMA) maintains a strong physical presence in Frankfort each year, and is dedicated to advocating on behalf of its membership in order to protect the practice of medicine in Kentucky and to ensure patients have the access to care that they deserve.

As a part of its advocacy efforts, KMA strives to provide its members with information regarding actions taken by the Kentucky General Assembly. Toward that end, KMA is supplying members a legislative voting record that was compiled from the 2018 Regular Session. The voting record indicates how members of the General Assembly voted on bills designated as key pieces of legislation by KMA. While the General Assembly addressed a myriad of healthcare-related issues during the most recent session, the voting record only includes legislative items that received a floor vote by the House and/or Senate. Additionally, please note that the original language of a bill is typically amended during the legislative process and may have various iterations. Therefore, the bills included in the voting record are based on their final form. For your reference, the voting record also includes KMA's corresponding position on the issues.



A brief description of bills is provided below. However, if you would like to review the actual language of these bills, simply visit the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission's home page at www.lrc.ky.gov for further information.

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE REFORM - KMA SUPPORTS

SB
20

Omnibus medical malpractice legislation that requires an “affidavit of merit” at the time a claim is filed, caps on a plaintiff’s attorney’s fees, establishes legal confidentiality for medical peer review discussions and prohibits expressions of sympathy, compassion, benevolence and commiseration from being used against a healthcare provider in medical malpractice claims.

MIDWIFERY - KMA OPPOSES

SB
134

Pertains to midwifery and the delivery of babies, including high-risk deliveries, in out-of-hospital settings. This legislation was promoted by the Kentucky Home Birth Coalition, an organization established by non-nurse midwives, also known as Certified Profession Midwives (CPMs).

CME MANDATE - KMA OPPOSES

SB
238

Requires issue-specific continuing education on awareness of sexual violence for physicians, physician assistants, nurses and emergency medical technicians.

OPTOMETRY (ORIGINAL VERSION) - KMA OPPOSES

HB
191

Restricts the use of telemedicine and technology and potentially limits patient access to health care, innovative technology and physicians’ plenary licensure.

*Passed by House and Senate; Signed by Governor or awaiting Governor’s signature

TELEHEALTH - KMA SUPPORTS

SB
112

Requires, aside from some exceptions, health plans and Medicaid Managed Care Organizations to reimburse providers at the same rates for services delivered in-person or via telehealth.

PEER REVIEW PROTECTION - KMA SUPPORTS

HB
4

Protects the peer review process by allowing physicians and hospitals to assess their work without the possibility of their words being used in a medical malprac-tice claim.

PROVIDER CREDENTIALING - KMA SUPPORTS

HB
69

Requires the Department of Medicaid Services (DMS) to designate a single credentialing verification organization to verify credentials for DMS and all Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs); streamlines provider enroll-ment and credentialing procedures utilized by MCOs.

OPTOMETRY (AMENDED VERSION) - KMA SUPPORTS

HB
191

Addresses physicians’ concerns about the limitations of the original version by replacing the requirement for “simultaneous interaction” with “asynchronous and synchronous interaction,” which improves patient access to health care.

SENATE	Omnibus Medical Malpractice Reform		Telehealth	Midwifery	CME Mandate	Peer Review Protection	Provider Credentialing	Optometry (Amended Version)
	BILL NUMBER	SB 20	SB 112	SB 134	SB 238	HB 4	HB 69	HB 191
KMA POSITION (Y - Support, N - Oppose, - - Did Not Vote)		SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSED	OPPOSED	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT
Alvarado, Ralph	R-Winchester	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bowen, Joe	R-Owensboro	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Buford, Tom	R-Nicholasville	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Carpenter, Jared	R-Berea	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Carroll, Danny	R-Paducah	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Carroll, Julian	D-Frankfort	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	-
Clark, Perry	D-Louisville	N	Y	-	Y	N	Y	-
Embry, C.B.	R-Morgantown	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Girdler, Rick	R-Somerset	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Givens, David	R-Greensburg	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Harper Angel, Denise	D-Louisville	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Harris, Ernie	R-Prospect	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Higdon, Jimmy	R-Lebanon	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hornback, Paul	R-Shelbyville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Humphries, Stan	R-Cadiz	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jones, Ray	D-Pikeville	N	-	N	Y	N	Y	Y
Kerr, Alice	R-Lexington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
McDaniel, Chris	R-Taylor Mill	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
McGarvey, Morgan	D-Louisville	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Meredith, Stephen	R-Leitchfield	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Neal, Gerald	D-Louisville	N	Y	Y	-	N	-	Y
Parrett, Dennis	D-Elizabethtown	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Raque Adams, Julie	R-Louisville	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Ridley, Dorsey	D-Henderson	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Robinson, Albert	R-London	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Schickel, John	R-Union	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Schroder, Wil	R-Wilder	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Seum, Dan	R-Fairdale	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Smith, Brandon	R-Hazard	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Stivers, Robert	R-Manchester	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thayer, Damon	R-Georgetown	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Thomas, Reginald	D-Lexington	-	-	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Turner, Johnny	D-Prestonsburg	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Webb, Robin	D-Grayson	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
West, Steve	R-Paris	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Westerfield, Whitney	R-Hopkinsville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Wilson, Mike	R-Bowling Green	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Wise, George "Max"	R-Campbellsville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

HOUSE		Telehealth	Peer Review Protection	Provider Credentialing	Optometry (Original Version)	Optometry (Amended Version)
	BILL NUMBER	SB 112	HB 4	HB 69	HB 191	HB 191
KMA POSITION (Y - Support, N - Oppose, - - Did Not Vote)		SUPPORT	SUPPORT	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
Adkins, Rocky	D-Sandy Hook	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Bechler, Lynn	R-Marion	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Belcher, Linda	D-Shepherdsville	N		Y		Y
Bentley, Danny	R-Russell	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Benvenuti, Robert	R-Lexington	Y	-	-	N	Y
Blanton, John	R-Salyersville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bratcher, Kevin	R-Louisville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Brown, George	D-Lexington	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Brown, Larry	R-Prestonsburg	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Burch, Thomas	D-Louisville	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Cantrell, McKenzie	D-Louisville	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Carney, John	R-Campbellsville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Castlen, Matt	R-Maceo	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Couch, Tim	R-Hyden	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Coursey, Will	D-Symsonia	-	N	Y	Y	Y
DeCesare, Jim	R-Bowling Green	-	-	Y	Y	Y
Donohue, Jeffery	D-Fairdale	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Dossett, Myron	R-Pembroke	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
DuPlessis, Jim	R-Elizabethtown	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Elliott, Daniel	R-Danville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fischer, Joseph	R-Fort Thomas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fleming, Ken	R-Louisville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Flood, Kelly	D-Lexington	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Fugate, Chris	R-Chavies	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Gentry, Alan	D-Louisville	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Goforth, Robert	R-East Bernstadt	Y		Y		Y
Gooch, Jim	R-Providence	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Graham, Derrick	D-Frankfort	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Greer, Jeff	D-Brandenburg	-	-	-	Y	Y
Hale, David	R-Wellington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Harris, Chris	D-Forest Hills	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Hart, Mark	R-Falmouth	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hatton, Angie	D-Whitesburg	Y	-	Y	Y	-
Heath, Richard	R-Mayfield	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Herald, Toby	R-Beattyville	Y	Y	Y	Y	-
Hoover, Jeff	R-Jamestown	-	Y	-	Y	-
Horlander, Dennis	D-Louisville	-	-	-	Y	-
Huff, Regina	R-Williamsburg	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Imes, Kenny	R-Murray	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Jenkins, Joni	D-Shively	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Johnson, DJ	R-Owensboro	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Kay, James	D-Versailles	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Keene, Dennis	D-Wilder	N	N	Y	Y	Y
King, Kim	R-Harrodsburg	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Koenig, Adam	R-Erlanger	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lee, Stan	R-Lexington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Linder, Brian	R-Dry Ridge	-	Y	-	N	Y
Marzian, Mary	D-Louisville	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Mayfield, Donna	R-Winchester	-	Y	Y	Y	Y
McCoy, Chad	R-Bardstown	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Meade, David	R-Stanford	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Meeks, Reginald	D-Louisville	N	N	N	Y	Y
Meredith, Michael	R-Brownsville	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Meyer, Russ	D-Nicholasville	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Miles, Suzanne	R-Owensboro	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Miller, Charles	D-Louisville	N	-	Y	Y	-
Miller, Jerry	R-Louisville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mills, Robby	R-Henderson	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Moffett, Phil	R-Louisville	Y	Y	Y	-	Y
Moore, Tim	R-Elizabethtown	Y	Y	Y	Y	-
Morgan, Wesley	R-Richmond	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Moser, Kimberly	R-Taylor Mill	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Nelson, Rick	D-Middlesboro	Y	-	Y	Y	Y
Nemes, Jason	R-Louisville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Osborne, David	R-Prospect	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Overly, Sannie	D-Paris	-	N	-	Y	Y
Owens, Darryl	D-Louisville	-	-	Y	Y	-
Palumbo, Ruth	D-Lexington	N	N	Y	Y	-
Petrie, Jason	R-Elkton	Y	Y	Y	Y	-
Pratt, Phillip	R-Georgetown	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Prunty, Melinda	R-Belton	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rand, Rick	D-Bedford	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Reed, Brandon	R-Hodgenville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Richards, Jody	D-Bowling Green	Y	-	Y	Y	Y
Riggs, Steven	D-Louisville	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Riley, Steve	R-Glasgow	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rothemburger, Rob	R-Shelbyville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rowland, Bart	R-Tompkinsville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rudy, Steven	R-Paducah	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Santoro, Sal	R-Florence	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Schamore, Dean	D-Hardinsburg	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Scott, Attica	D-Louisville	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shell, Jonathan	R-Lancaster	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Simpson, Arnold	D-Covington	Y	-	Y	Y	Y
Sims, John	D-Flemingsburg	-	-	Y	Y	Y
Sinnette, Kevin	D-Ashland	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
St. Onge, Diane	R-Lakeside Park	-	Y	Y	N	Y
Stewart, Jim	R-Flat Lick	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Stone, Wilson	D-Scottsville	Y	-	Y	Y	Y
Thomas, Walker	R-Hopkinsville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Tipton, James	R-Taylorsville	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Turner, Tommy	R-Somerset	Y	Y	-	Y	Y
Upchurch, Kenneth	R-Monticello	-	Y	Y	Y	Y
Watkins, Gerald	D-Paducah	-	-	Y	Y	Y
Wayne, Jim	D-Louisville	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Webber, Russell	R-Shepherdsville	-	Y	-	Y	-
Wells, William	R-West Liberty	-	Y	Y	N	-
Westrom, Susan	D-Lexington	N	Y	Y	N	-
Wuchner, Addia	R-Florence	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
York, Jill	R-Grayson	Y	N	Y	Y	Y