

RESOLUTION

Subject: Teenage Pregnancy Reduction
Submitted by: Greater Louisville Medical Society
Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, the rate of teenage pregnancy in Kentucky remains to be among the highest in the country, ranked as number four in the country and eight points higher than national average, approximating 3,500 teenage pregnancies^{1,2}; and

WHEREAS, in the state of Kentucky, the rate of adolescent pregnancy has decreased substantially from 2008 to 2019 as proactive and preventative measures broadened their educational approach towards mitigating pregnancy¹; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the state of Kentucky has recognized the need for sexual education to encompass aspects of healthy relationships when the state introduced House Bill 80 which requires education on the “development of relationship and communication skills necessary to form healthy relationships free of violence, coercion, and intimidation,”⁴; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Senate Bill 150 was enacted into law which prohibits sexual education in kindergarten through fifth grade, restricts discussion about sexual orientation and sexual identity, and establishes an “opt-in” system⁵; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky has resisted adhering to any of the National Sex Education standards in the second edition written to be implemented in K-12 schools^{3,5}; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA advocate for Kentucky public schools to initially implement the proposed standards from the National Sex Education guidelines regarding consent and healthy relationships, sexual health, and interpersonal violence; and be it further

RESOLVED, that KMA develop medically accurate sex education instruction in collaboration with the Division of Maternal and Child Health, the Adolescent Health Program, and educators to amend the current Kentucky Academic Standards for Physical Education for age-appropriate sexual education.

References:

1. "Adolescent Health Program - Cabinet for Health and Family Services." *Ky.gov*, 2019, www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dmch/cfhib/Pages/ah.aspx.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "CDC WONDER." *Cdc.gov*, CDC.gov, 2021, wonder.cdc.gov/.
3. *Kentucky Academic Standards Physical Education*.
4. Kentucky Legislative Research Commission. "18RS HB 80." *Ky.gov*, 2018, apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/18RS/hb80.html. Accessed 16 June 2025.
5. "Kentucky State Profile." *SIECUS*, siecus.org/stateprofiles/kentucky-state-profile-23/.