

CHIEF SPONSOR: Rachel Nealis

HOUSE/SENATE BILL # _____

CO-SPONSORS: Mary Mattox

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE # _____

CITY: Spencerville

ACTION ON THE BILL: _____

Title: Drop-Out Reduction Act

**ENACTING CLAUSE BE IT HEAREBY ENACTED BY THE (SENATE/HOUSE) OF KENTUCKY
GIRLS STATE ASSEMBLED, That**

Section I: Annual drop out rates for the State of Kentucky shall be reduced by 2014, on an incremental basis, to coincide with the required increase of graduation rate from 79% to 98% as set forth by the United States government in the No Child Left Behind Act.

Section II: Congress shall issue state grants to all school districts based on the population of minorities of the facility. The financial aid given by the grants shall be reallocated each year on a per capita basis and proportional to the minority populations in order to lower minority drop out rates. These grants will allow each school district to provide services specific to minority needs, such as translators, special needs classes, tutoring, etc.

Section III: Congress shall increase the legal age to drop out of high school to seventeen years. Research and public opinion shows that students aged sixteen and younger are not prepared to make life-altering decisions, such as whether or not to drop out of high school. Students of this age cannot consume alcohol or purchase tobacco products; therefore, they should not be able to prevent themselves from receiving a proper education. However, by the age of eighteen a drop out age is futile because many high school students will have graduated by this age.

Section IV: Violators of this bill, i.e. students who drop out of high school before the age of seventeen, shall be subject to mandatory summer classes with an option to be enrolled in mandatory homebound classes. Parents of students who drop out illegally would be responsible for ensuring that students attend mandatory classes. Failure to comply on the parents' behalf would result in fines/incarceration for neglect.

Section V: This bill will take effect 1 year from the date of passage.