

## Gov. Beshear signs legislation supporting health care and organ donation

House Bills 393, 510 and Senate Bill 97

Submitted by the Office of Governor Andy Beshear

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 7, 2026) – Today, Gov. Andy Beshear signed House Bills 393 and 510 and Senate Bill 97 to support health care relating to Alzheimer's disease, organ donation and health-care coverage for prosthetics and orthotics.

"Health care is a basic human right, and there are so many areas we can invest and improve to better support Kentuckians throughout their lifetime," said Gov. Beshear. "From ensuring progress is being made for those suffering from Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers to delivering coverage for prosthetics and more, this legislation

will provide support and processes that help move our commonwealth forward."

House Bill 393 requires the Office of Dementia and the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Council to produce an annual report and a progress report on the work being done to meet the goals outlined in the Alzheimer's and Related Dementias state plan.

House Bill 510 establishes new safeguards to the organ donation process to better protect patients.

Senate Bill 97 requires that health benefit plans cover prosthetics and orthotics for Kentuckians in need.

**Other 2026 bill signings**

Earlier this week, the Governor signed House Bill 307 to create a proactive admissions program to streamline the application process for students seeking postsecondary and House Bill 642 to increase the amount a retired teacher can earn during reemployment.

On Good Friday, Gov. Beshear signed several bills to better support Kentuckians with special needs and their families with Senate Bill 69, Senate Bill 85 and House Bill 562.

In March, Gov. Beshear signed several bills to support education and safety for Kentuckians. These pieces of legislation included Senate Bill 2, directing school districts to not increase administrator pay greater than the percentage pay increase provided to classroom teachers; Sen-

ate Bill 5 encouraging schools to purchase locally grown food; Senate Bill 46, which makes changes to student transportation for increased safety; and House Bill 657, which protects consumers by requiring national and state background checks for specialty providers.

He also signed Senate Bill 145 related to regulations for the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and signed Senate Bill 11 into law, establishing a residential safe room rebate program and fund to protect eligible Kentuckians from severe weather.

In February, Gov. Beshear signed Senate Bill 172, which helped lower the cost of utilities for Kentucky families.

The Governor also stood with Kentucky public schools in March and vetoed House Bill 1.

## Quinn Minute: Have people improved?

Rix Quinn

Have people evolved much?

We humans possess remarkable powers. We can walk, run, swim, and even fly (if we hold a boarding pass). Other creatures aren't so adaptable.

Fish can swim, but walk poorly. Birds can fly, but often misjudge altitude, and end up as hood ornaments.

Some snakes can squeeze you to death... but who wants an affectionate reptile? Bears possess power, but hibernate all winter, and miss some great parties.

Rabbits multiply quickly, but can't understand other math. Amoebas divide, but separate from their better halves.

Beavers build constantly, but live a dam hard life. Wild pigs are unpredictable, and can boar you senseless. Turtles appear gentle, but rarely come out of their

shells.

However, animals can learn by trial-and-error.

Scientists discovered that many beasts can master complicated tricks if rewarded with food. I also love to be rewarded with food, and have personally mastered many complicated recipes.

Over the centuries, folks have survived with intellect, ingenuity, and improvisation.

And when cornered – unlike animals – some folks can talk their way out of trouble. That's a skill I have not yet mastered.

Were you born between 1946-1964? Would you like to know more about the generation called Baby Boomers? You can order Rix's book on that generation today. Just go to this link: <https://www.amazon.com/BABY-BOOMERS-SPEAK-learned-whatever/dp/>

## AG applauds passage of bill streamlining Kentucky's death penalty process

Tom Latek  
Kentucky Today

FRANKFORT, Ky. (KT) – Attorney General Russell Coleman praised the Kentucky House of Representatives and state Senate for passing legislation to remove red tape from the process of imposing the death penalty in Kentucky.

Senate Bill 251, sponsored by Steve West, R-Paris, allows the Kentucky Department of Corrections (KDOC) to set execution procedures through internal policies and memorandums, making the department exempt from formal

administrative regulations. This allows a more streamlined process and avoids lengthy hurdles.

The bill passed 68-23 in the House and 27-9 in the Senate. It's now on Governor Beshear's desk waiting action.

There are 24 inmates who are currently sitting on Kentucky's death row, and many have tried for decades to avoid their sentence, which was delivered by a jury.

"Families of victims have waited far too long for their loved one's killer to get the justice lawfully sentenced to them from Kentucky juries," Coleman said. "Through

zealous collaboration between our Office and the General Assembly we'll make sure this justice isn't denied. Instead of continuing to hide behind legal fictions, I call on the Governor to sign this bill into law, then sign the death warrant for the killer of Powell County Sheriff Steve Bennett and Deputy Arthur Briscoe."

"Senate Bill 251 is less about the death penalty itself and more about the rule of law," said West. "For years, Kentucky has been an outlier because court decisions forced execution protocols into the administrative regu-

lation process, creating a revolving door of litigation and delay. This bill corrects that problem by allowing the Department of Corrections to establish those protocols through internal policy, as most other states already do."

SB 251 also requires KDOC to publish any internal policies online.

Coleman's office recently argued for the dismissal of a 2006 case is at the center of a 15-year ban on executions in the state. A dismissal would clear the way for about a dozen executions.

## Rabid bat found in Lexington

Tom Latek  
Kentucky Today

LEXINGTON, Ky. (KT) – The Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) is alerting the public that a bat found in the Seven Parks/Elizabeth Street area (zip code 40503) has tested positive for rabies.

The bat was discovered in the basement of a home in that area, so Environmental Health staff will be posting Rabid Animal Placards in

the affected area.

LFCHD's Epidemiology and Environmental Health divisions have contacted the individual identified in the bite report to ensure they receive appropriate follow-up care. Residents who believe they or their pets may have had contact with any animal acting abnormally are urged to contact the health department immediately.

Rabies is a fatal but preventable disease. Transmission can occur through a bite or through

contact with an infected animal's saliva via the eyes, nose, mouth or an open wound. Bats have very small teeth, and a bite mark may not always be visible. Public health officials say if you are unsure whether or not you were exposed, do not wait to seek guidance.

Residents are encouraged to take the following precautions:

—Keep pets current on their rabies vaccinations — if your pet is not current, vaccinate immediately.

—Do not handle, feed or approach wild animals or any animal behaving abnormally.

—If a bat is found inside your home, do not release it; contain it if possible and contact the health department.

—Seek immediate medical attention if you believe you or a family member has been exposed.

To report a potential exposure, contact your local health department.

## Attorney General fights to protect law that bans child sex dolls and computer-generated child sex abuse material

Submitted by the Office of Attorney General Russell Coleman

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 8, 2026) – Attorney General Russell Coleman announced today legal action to uphold a statute banning the possession of child sex dolls and computer-generated sexual material that includes identifiable children. The Attorney General's brief supporting the law's constitutionality is part of a criminal case in Union County Circuit Court, which is being prosecuted by the Commonwealth Attorney's Office for the 5th Judicial Circuit.

Kenneth Moore, 50, of Sturgis, challenged the law following his arrest for the possession of three

child sex dolls and dozens of child sex abuse videos and images. Moore was arrested in July 2025 following the execution of a search warrant at his home. A forensic search of his cell phone recovered the videos and images.

A grand jury indicted Moore on 10 counts of Possession or Viewing of Matter Portraying a Sexual Performance by a Minor (Class D Felony), five counts of Promoting a Sexual Performance by a Minor less than 16 years of age (Class B Felony) and one count of Trafficking a Child Sex Doll (Class C Felony).

Moore has challenged the case against him, arguing the criminal prosecution for possession

and trafficking of a child sex doll, and possessing or promoting computer-generated images of sexual acts using identifiable minors, violates his constitutional rights.

The General Assembly passed House Bill 207 (2024) to ban the possession of child sex dolls and computer-generated sexual material that includes identifiable children. The legislation unanimously passed both chambers and was signed into law by the Governor. Attorney General Coleman strongly supported the bill's passage.

Attorney General's legal team called Moore's arguments "absurd" and filed a brief to restore common sense and uphold the leg-

islation created to keep Kentucky's children safe.

The Union County Sheriff's Office investigated the case. Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the 5th Judicial Circuit Wes Hunt will prosecute the case. Assistant Solicitor General James Havey with the Office of the Attorney General submitted the constitutional defense brief on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Moore's trial is pending. The Kentucky Supreme Court's rule on trial publicity limits information the Office can provide publicly.

The charges in an indictment are allegations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

## Drug take back day scheduled for April 25

Tom Latek  
Kentucky Today

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (KT) – It's time to go through your medicine cabinets. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will host the 30th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at nearly 4,200 locations nationwide.

Twice a year, DEA joins forces with local law enforcement and community groups to host DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, giving the public a safe and anonymous way to dispose of expired and unused prescription medications. By getting rid of unnecessary medications in the home, families can help prevent prescription drug misuse and reduce the potential for accidental poisonings.

"Removing unused and expired medications from your home and disposing of them properly is a simple but powerful step in preventing prescription drug misuse," said DEA Administrator Terrance Cole. "DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is a critical public safety initiative that we have hosted for 16 years. Its continued success is due, in large part, to our local and state law enforcement and community partners who continue to stand with us to make our communities safe."

Special Agent in Charge Jim Scott, who heads DEA's Louisville Field Division, stated,

"Cleaning out your home medicine cabinet and safely disposing of unneeded or expired medications is a great way to help safeguard the community by keeping potentially harmful pills off of our streets. It's a small act that can pay big dividends."

Since 2010, DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day has provided an easy and accessible way to dispose of medications that could pose a threat if misused. Over the past 16 years, National Prescription Take Back Day has removed more than 20 million pounds of unwanted medications from communities across the United States.

DEA and its partners will collect tablets, capsules, patches and other forms of prescription drugs. Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should be securely sealed in their original container.

Syringes, sharps or illicit drugs are not collected.

There are at least 60 collection sites in Kentucky. To find the location nearest you visit [www.DEATakeBack.com](http://www.DEATakeBack.com).

For those unable to participate in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, there are more than 16,500 pharmacies, hospitals and businesses that offer safe medication disposal year-round. In addition, many police departments also provide permanent drop boxes to ensure Every Day is Take Back Day.

