

CHAPTER 151**(HB 244)**

AN ACT relating to the Kentucky Guard Youth Challenge Program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 36 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) *The Kentucky Guard Youth Challenge Program is hereby established within the Department of Military Affairs to serve as the state's program for participation in the National Guard Youth Challenge Program established in 32 U.S.C. sec. 509 or any successor program. The program shall establish at least one (1) campus for program operations and may establish additional campuses as funding and demand allow. The program shall serve as an alternative education program that serves each school district in the Commonwealth.*
- (2) *The Kentucky Guard Youth Challenge Program shall be designed to align and comply with federal statute and administrative regulations for the National Guard Youth Challenge Program and associated guidance provided by the United States Department of Defense.*
- (3) *The Kentucky Guard Youth Challenge Program shall be under the direction of the adjutant general or designee. The adjutant general or designee shall:*
 - (a) *Appoint a director of the Kentucky Guard Youth Challenge Program to oversee the daily management of the program; and*
 - (b) *Adopt a strategic plan for the program's schools to ensure continuous improvement.*
- (4) *For purposes of the school assessment and accountability system established in KRS Chapter 158, the Kentucky Department of Education shall, through policy or the promulgation of an administrative regulation, provide that the time each student is participating in the program is attributable to the district sending the student to participate in the program.*

Signed by Governor March 31, 2023.