

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION recognizing the rights of employees in the education workplace and urging employers to respect those rights.

WHEREAS, according to data from the Kentucky Center for School Safety, there were 5,687 law violations in Kentucky schools during the 2013-2014 school year, with 1,270 incidents of marijuana possession, 488 incidents of fourth-degree assault, 381 incidents of terroristic threatening, and 377 incidents of disorderly conduct; and

WHEREAS, 3,649 of these incidents occurred in the classroom, 545 incidents occurred on campus grounds, 473 incidents occurred in halls and stairways, 310 incidents occurred on school buses, and 435 incidents occurred in restrooms and cafeterias; and

WHEREAS, these actions by a small population of students constitute a real threat to school employees that burdens the employees' ability to perform their jobs; and

WHEREAS, reduced funding combined with increased job requirements have overwhelmed school employees and hindered their ability to perform their critical duties; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2013 TELL Kentucky Survey of teachers, 24 percent of Kentucky teachers do not feel they have adequate time without disruptions to educate students, 38 percent spend more than one hour per week addressing student discipline issues, 25 percent have to address student behavioral issues almost daily, and 24 percent feel rules of student conduct are not consistently enforced;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

➔Section 1. School employees have the right to work in a safe environment without student-caused disruptions and free from unreasonably burdensome workloads.

➔Section 2. The General Assembly urges local school districts to support their employees by removing disruptive or violent students who are harming the educational process and placing those students in appropriate alternative education settings.

➔Section 3. The General Assembly urges local school districts to monitor the workload of school employees and develop policies to ensure that no employee shall endure inordinate workloads.

➔Section 4. The Clerk of the House of Representatives shall send a copy of this Resolution to Dr. Stephen L. Pruitt, Commissioner of Education, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; Mike Armstrong, Executive Director of the Kentucky School Boards Association, 260 Democrat Drive, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601; and Stephanie Winkler, President of the Kentucky Education Association, 401 Capital Avenue, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.