

Guest Editorial

(Owen/Grant/Scott)

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Commonwealth of Kentucky
Senator
Damon Thayer

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Report from Frankfort

Frankfort – We continue to tackle education issues in the Senate. This week, we passed Senate bills 85 and 28.

- Senate Bill 85 will double the fine for speeding in a school zone during the times when the speed limit has been lowered and caution lights are flashing. The state currently doubles the fine in work zones; our children deserve no less protection.
- Senate Bill 28 will provide teachers and classified personnel full retirement credit for a full school year's worth of work. For some school districts, the addition of snow days had proved problematic to the calculation of retirement. This is a fairness issue that will benefit teachers and classified personnel.

These bills now head to the House.

The Senate Judiciary Committee passed House Bill 108 which is a similar bill to SB 4, which I co-sponsored. SB 4, a fetal homicide bill, passed the Senate last month. I am proud to inform you that after having the Senate pass a fetal homicide bill repeatedly and having it blocked in the House each time, the House's position has finally moved closer to ours. I believe that life begins at conception and the unborn should be protected under the law. This issue must be above politics. I am confident that a fetal homicide bill will be signed by the Governor this session, and I am proud to be an advocate for this effort.

Coming up, we expect to hear more details about the Governor's tax reform proposal. The Senate's committees are busy with several reorganization bills that will streamline government and save money. The House committees are currently evaluating the Governor's budget proposal which constitutionally must be done before the document reaches the Senate.

Your opinion is important to me. Please leave me a message toll-free at 800/372-7181.

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Note: For a high-resolution .jpeg of Senator Thayer, please log onto www.lrc.state.ky.us/pubinfo/epphoto.htm.