

1 AN ACT relating to the presentation of ceremonial checks of taxpayer funds and
2 declaring an emergency.

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

4 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 11A IS CREATED TO
5 READ AS FOLLOWS:

6 (1) As used in this section:

7 (a) "Ceremonial check" means any physical or digital representation of
8 taxpayer dollars being allocated, awarded, or spent that is used for publicity,
9 promotional, or ceremonial purposes; and

10 (b) "Executive branch official" means the Governor, Attorney General,
11 Treasurer, Auditor of Public Accounts, Secretary of State, Commissioner of
12 Agriculture, or any agency head, commissioner, or representative of an
13 executive branch agency.

14 (2) A executive branch official shall not present, display, or distribute a ceremonial
15 check without the express written consent of both the President of the Senate and
16 the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The written consent shall be issued
17 only upon review and approval of the specific allocation of funds, ensuring
18 transparency and legislative oversight.

19 (3) Any ceremonial check presented without proper authorization under subsection
20 (2) of this subsection shall be considered a violation of this section. Any executive
21 branch official found in violation is subject to the following penalties:

22 (a) A fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per violation;

23 (b) Public censure by the General Assembly; and

24 (c) Referral to the appropriate ethics commission for further investigation.

25 (4) The Kentucky Legislative Ethics Commission shall have the authority to enforce
26 compliance and investigate complaints related to unauthorized presentations of
27 ceremonial checks under this section.

1 ➡Section 2. The purpose of Section 1 of this Act is to ensure legislative oversight
2 and prevent unauthorized use of taxpayer funds for political or promotional purposes by
3 requiring approval from the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
4 Representatives before any executive branch official presents a ceremonial check
5 representing state expenditures.

6 ➡Section 3. Whereas it is critical to prevent unauthorized use of taxpayer funds,
7 an emergency is declared to exist, and this Act takes effect upon its passage and approval
8 by the Governor or upon its otherwise becoming a law.