



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR

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VETO MESSAGE FROM THE
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 2 OF THE 2025 REGULAR SESSION

I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, pursuant to the authority granted under section 88 of the Kentucky Constitution, do hereby veto the following:

House Bill 2 of the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly in its entirety.

House Bill 2 is unconstitutional and would punish state officials for carrying out the law.

In 2024, I vetoed part of an appropriation bill that waived the sales and use tax for gold. The General Assembly failed to override that veto and it was never challenged in court. The veto is therefore valid. During this session, the legislature has not passed a bill that would waive the sales and use tax on the purchase of gold. Instead, House Bill 2 retroactively allows people who paid sales or use tax on currency or bouillon after August 1, 2024, to file a lawsuit to collect a refund. The decision to not simply permit a refund, but instead allow for lawsuits by purchasers, appears to be designed to cost the Commonwealth tax dollars while enriching certain lawyers. The bill would also make executive branch officials personally liable to pay monetary damages to a taxpayer who is awarded a refund on gold, even in situations when those officials have acted in good faith and in accordance with the law. At a time when Kentuckians are hurting because of higher prices at the grocery, at the pump, and for everyday consumer goods, prioritizing tax breaks for purchasers of gold is out of touch with reality for most people in Kentucky.

For these reasons, I am vetoing House Bill 2.

This, the 25th day of March, 2025.


Andy Beshear
Governor