

New laws now in effect

Kentucky's law books will get a bit thicker on July 15 as the General Assembly's 1998 legislative session becomes law.

Several telecommunications bills will have to stop making plicies over the phone during the early morning or late night hours, mostly by 10 p.m. or earlier. Violent criminals will face tougher prison sentences. And high school students will have more opportunities to earn college scholarships.

The Kentucky Constitution says bills approved by the General Assembly become law 90 days after the Legislature adjourns unless the act contains a later effective date or an emergency clause. This year's legislative session ended on April 15.

New laws that take effect on July 15:

• Senate Bill 21 will use letters procedure to fund college scholarships for deserving students. High schoolers will receive scholarship money based on their grade point average. A student with a 4.0 GPA will earn \$500 worth of scholarship money each year that can be used toward obtaining a higher education at Kentucky schools.

A student with a lower GPA will earn less.

High schoolers can also earn scholarship money by earning well on the American College Test.

All students enrolled in Kentucky high schools for the coming school year are eligible for scholarships from calling Senate Bill 199 will forbid telemarketers from calling homes before 10 a.m. or after 9 p.m. The bill also requires the Attorney General's office to establish a no-call list for people who don't want to receive calls from telemarketers. The Attorney General's office will start collecting names for the list on July 15 and expects to issue the first list to telemarketing companies in October.

• House Bill 218 will allow ministers to carry concealed weapons in their churches.

• House Bill 864, the Women's Health Bill, will require insurers to cover reconstructive surgery for women with breast cancer. The bills also will force insurers to cover testing and treatment for osteoporosis, a bone disease, and endometriosis, a uterine disorder that often causes fertility problems for women.

• House Bill 425 will require most violent offenders to serve

85 percent of sentences before being eligible for parole. The bill also reclassifies life imprisonment as a death penalty alternative.

Other high-profile bills of the session, such as a bill that ensures that people get to vote on Election Day, are already in the law books by 6 p.m. on Election Day, even if they're in the state's vote boxes.

• House Bill 91 will require anyone who assaults a court official to face a sentence of up to one year in jail.

• House Bill 13 will prevent the state from recognizing same-sex marriages.

• House Bill 410 will require manufacturers to provide warranties on assistive devices, such as hearing aids.

• House Bill 2 will prevent school principals from denying students the right to pray during non-instructional times.

• Senate Bill 392 will establish a 26 percent cap for the interest rates charged by lending companies that hold car titles as collateral.

• Senate Bill 92 will allow Kentuckians to fly the American flag from their homes despite any local private property agreements.

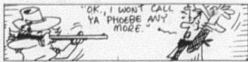
Although House Bill 85, a measure to ban most procedures commonly referred to as partial-birth abortions, was slated to go into effect July 15, a federal judge ordered officials to delay

enforcement of the act to give him time to decide whether the ban is constitutional.

Other bills already enacted into law due to emergency clauses include a measure that made lethal injection Kentucky's official form of execution and an act that made 16 the minimum age for marriage, unless a girl is pregnant and has a judge's permission.

House Bill 1, a water-safety bill approved by lawmakers, also contained an emergency clause that made it illegal for children under 12 to operate any boat or personal watercraft with more than 10 horsepower.

However, other provisions of House Bill 1 haven't taken effect yet, such as a requirement taking effect in 1999 to require boaters between the ages of 12 and 17 to obtain a safe boating certificate unless they're with an adult or instructor, else with a safe boating certificate.



Famed American sharpshooter Annie Oakley was born Phoenix, Mo. in 1860.



(NAPS) Local bookstores carry the American Heart Association Quick and Easy Cookbook (Times Books, \$17.00).

A new book, *Some Soup for the World: Life-Changing Stories of Kindness and Courageous Acts of Service* (Simon & Schuster, \$15.95), includes stories by or about Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela, Edward James Olmos, Richard Dreyfuss, Ruter Muller, Wuyton Marshall, Paul Ripstein and many more.

For helpful hints and useful information on drawing well, you can read *Men's Horoscopes*, the newest in the *Chir Simple* series of horoscope books, edited by Kim Johnson Gross and Jeff Stone.

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