



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Senator Danny Carroll
Senator Dennis Parrett

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**KENTUCKY STATE SENATE INTRODUCES SUNNY PAGE PROGRAM
FOR 2017 SESSION**

FRANKFORT, Ky. (January 31, 2017) - Through a bipartisan effort in the Kentucky State Senate, Senator Danny Carroll (R-Paducah) and Senator Dennis Parrett (D-Elizabethtown) introduced the “Sunny Page” program, to encourage children with disabilities to participate as pages in the Senate.

“The purpose of this program is to ensure that children with disabilities and their families are aware of the opportunity to serve as a page,” Senator Carroll said. “We also want to ensure that there are no barriers preventing a child with disabilities from participating (such as financial resources) in the experience of serving as a daily page in the Senate.”

As it stands, The Kentucky Senate and House of Representatives both have established page programs. The Senate’s page program is under the leadership of the Senate Clerk, Donna Holiday. Currently, the Senate’s page program is divided into either full-time pages or daily pages.

“We believe this program will enhance education for children with disabilities by first-hand participation and exposure to state government/political process, increasing self-confidence, self-esteem and a sense of being a part of the honored tradition of public-service,” Senator Parrett said.

“This is a wonderful program that allows our students with disabilities to observe our law-making process and our government in action,” Senate Democratic Leader Ray S. Jones said. “I commend Senators Parrett and Carroll for taking the initiative to get this program started.”

“By participating in the Page Programs, it is hoped that students are more likely to actively engage in becoming more educated and aware and also more involved in the political process and democracy as adults,” Senate President Robert Stivers said.

The Senate page program has always been open to students with disabilities and all students; the “Sunny Page” program was designed to teach and further promote the process of state government to children with disabilities.

Both Senator Carroll and Senator Parrett have daughters with special needs and wanted to initiate the “Sunny Page” program to honor their daughters. The senators said they chose the name “Sunny Page” because the presence of these kids is sure to brighten everyone’s day.

Senator Carroll and Senator Parrett also said that they were in the process of planning a press availability with other senators in the near future to further educate the public on the Sunny Day Page Program and encourage children from across the Commonwealth to sign up and be a part of the political process in Frankfort.

For further inquiries regarding the Sunny Day Page Program, please contact Senator Danny Carroll via email, at Danny.Carroll@LRC.ky.gov or Senate Clerk Donna Holiday, at Donna.Holiday@LRC.ky.gov. To schedule a child to serve as a “sunny page,” please contact Senate Clerk Donna Holiday’s office at the email listed above.

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