

2005 Kentucky General Assembly

Voting Record

Each legislative session, lawmakers vote on hundreds of bills, many of which directly affect Kentucky's business community. The 2005 General Assembly was no different. What makes this year stand out, however, is the level of success that business was able to achieve. While two key pro-business initiatives—tax modernization and the state budget—monopolized much of the legislature's time, lawmakers were also able to address other business issues. In fact, a number of Kentucky Chamber of Commerce-supported proposals proved successful this year. For a session that lasted a mere 29 days, legislators should be commended for their strong body of work.

As Kentucky's premier business advocate, the Kentucky Chamber's mission is to create and support a competitive business climate in the commonwealth. Achieving that goal requires more than simply representing our members at the capitol. To be truly effective, we must also engage our members by getting them involved in the legislative and political process; this means informing you how legislators performed in supporting pro-business principles.

To that end, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce is proud to present the 2005 Kentucky General Assembly Voting Record. We hope you will take a moment to review its contents to see how your legislators are representing you in Frankfort.

Explanation of Bills Used in the Voting Record

The roll call votes contained in this document reveal how legislators voted on bills that the Kentucky Chamber publicly supported or opposed during the 2005 General Assembly. Although we took positions on several bills during the session, the voting record includes only those that received a vote before the entire House and/or Senate. Please note that the substance of a bill may be significantly altered during the legislative process. Unless otherwise noted, the legislative proposals—along with the Kentucky Chamber's position on those proposals—referenced in the voting record are based on the last or final version of the bill receiving a floor vote for each house.

Bills Used in House and Senate Voting Records

HB 93: Reading and Math Performance

The “Gateway Skills Act” contains new initiatives to increase student performance in reading and mathematics, both of which are essential skills for competing in the modern workplace. *The General Assembly passed HB 93 with the Kentucky Chamber’s support. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

HB 272: Tax Modernization

Designed to improve Kentucky’s competitiveness, HB 272 cuts the corporate and individual income taxes, eliminates the corporate license tax and intangible property tax, raises the cigarette and alcohol tax and establishes an alternative-minimum tax and several new tax credits, among other provisions. *The General Assembly passed HB 272 with the Kentucky Chamber’s support. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

HB 278: Small Business Health Insurance

Allows health insurers to offer basic health plans that are exempt from most state coverage mandates in the association, small group and individual markets. HB 278 also establishes an advisory committee on consumer-oriented health information. *The General Assembly passed HB 278, which the Kentucky Chamber supported in its final version. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

SB 2: Health Care Innovation

Creates the Kentucky Health Care Infrastructure Authority and the Kentucky e-Health Network Board to develop a statewide electronic health network. An “e-health” network offers promise to improve access, quality and efficiency of health care while also lowering costs. *The General Assembly passed SB 2 with the Kentucky Chamber’s support. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

SB 19: Read to Achieve

Creates a diagnostic and intervention program to improve reading skills among students. SB 19 reflects the growing need for reading proficiency in the modern workplace. *The General Assembly passed SB 19 with the Kentucky Chamber’s support. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

SB 103: Civil Liability

Excludes restaurants from civil liability for any claim arising from the long-term consumption of food. SB 103 prevents frivolous lawsuits by patrons who voluntarily consume food and then seek damages for poor health. *The General Assembly passed SB 103 with the Kentucky Chamber’s support. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

SB 156: Small Business Loans

Improves access to capital by authorizing a new small business loan program to be operated by the Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority. Loans up to \$100,000 may be granted to applicants engaged in manufacturing, agribusiness, or technology. *The General Assembly passed SB 156 with the Kentucky Chamber’s support. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

SB 184: Electrical Licensure Reform

Exempts industrial manufacturing facilities and their employees from state electrical licensure requirements. SB 184 improves efficiency and lowers cost for businesses that have employees performing routine electrical work. *The General Assembly passed SB 184 with the Kentucky Chamber’s support. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

Bills Used Only in Senate Voting Record

SB 1: Medical Malpractice Reform

Proposes to amend the Kentucky Constitution to allow the General Assembly to impose caps on noneconomic damages in medical malpractice cases and provides for alternative dispute resolution. Reasonable limits on jury awards would help address the escalating cost of malpractice premiums in Kentucky, which encourages some physicians to leave the state. *The Senate failed to pass SB 1, which was supported by the Kentucky Chamber. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

SB 70: School Principal Hiring

Requires collaboration between a local school council and a district superintendent in the hiring process of school principals. SB 70 enhances the role of superintendents to help ensure that a principal candidate’s skills are matched to the school’s needs. *The Senate passed SB 70 but it never received a vote in the House. The Kentucky Chamber supported this bill. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

Bills Used Only in House Voting Record

HB 5: Criminal Record Expungement

Allows persons convicted of Class D felonies to have their criminal records expunged under certain conditions. By removing key information from a potential job applicant’s background, HB 5 undermines an employer’s ability to make informed hiring decisions. *The House passed HB 5 but it was not voted on in the Senate. The Kentucky Chamber opposed this bill. A “no” vote is considered pro-business.*

HB 45: University Bonding Authority

Allows state universities to issue bonds to finance capital construction projects with the approval of the General Assembly. HB 45 enhances Kentucky’s postsecondary institutions by allowing the construction of much needed research facilities without placing an additional burden on limited state resources. *The House passed HB 45 but it did not receive a vote in the Senate. The Kentucky Chamber supported this bill. A “yea” vote is considered pro-business.*

Key to Symbols

- + Vote was supportive of Kentucky Chamber position
- Vote was not supportive of Kentucky Chamber position
- NV Did not vote
- P Passed/Abstained
- * Indicates legislators endorsed by the Kentucky Chamber in the 2004 election

Senate Voting Record

	Medical Malpractice Reform	Electronic Health Network	Read to Achieve Initiative	Superintendent Role in Principal Hiring	Obesity Lawsuit Immunity	Small Business Loan Program	Electrical Licensing Reform	Math & Reading Improvement	Comprehensive Tax Modernization	Small Business Health Insurance
	SB 1	SB 2	SB 19	SB 70	SB 103	SB 156	SB 184	HB 93	HB 272	HB 278
Blevins, Walter Jr. (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Borders, Charlie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Boswell, David (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Buford, Tom (R)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Carroll, Julian (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Denton, Julie (R)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gibson, Carroll (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Guthrie, Brett (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Harper Angel, Denise (D)*	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Harris Ernie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jensen, Tom (R)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ray Jones II (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kelly, Dan (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kerr, Alice (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Leeper, Robert (I)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
McGaha, Vernie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mongiardo, Daniel (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Neal, Gerald (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Palmer, R.J. II (D)	P	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Pendleton, Joey (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rhoads, Jerry (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ridley, Dorsey (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Roeding, Dick (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sanders, Ritchie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Scoresone, Ernesto (D)	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-
Seum, Dan (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Shaughnessy, Tim (D)	P	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stine, Katie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stivers, Robert (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tapp, Gary (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Thayer, Damon (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tori, Elizabeth (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Turner, Johnny Ray (D)	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Westwood, Jack (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Williams, David (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+
Winters, Ken (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Worley, Ed (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Official Vote Tally*	21-13	36-0	37-0	25-11	33-1	37-0	37-0	36-0	37-0	36-1

* The official vote tally, provided by the Legislative Research Commission, does not reflect votes cast or changed by lawmakers following the official count taken on the date of the roll call. For this voting record, lawmakers are given credit for votes cast after the official count, which results, in some cases, in the official vote tally varying slightly from what is reflected in the chart.

House Voting Record

	Electronic Health Network	Read to Achieve Initiative	Obesity Lawsuit Immunity	Small Business Loan Program	Electrical Licensing Reform	Criminal Record Expungement	State University Bonding Authority	Math & Reading Improvement	Comprehensive Tax Modernization	Small Business Health Insurance
	SB 2	SB 19	SB 103	SB 156	SB 184	HB 5	HB 45	HB 93	HB 272	HB 278
Adams, Royce (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	NV
Adkins, Rocky (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Arnold, Adrian (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV
Arnold, John Jr. (D)	NV	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Ballard, Eddie (D)	+	+	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+
Barrows, Joe (D)	+	+	NV	+	+	NV	+	+	+	NV
Baugh, Sheldon (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Belcher, Carolyn (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV
Bowen, Joe (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bratcher, Kevin (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Brinkman, Scott (R)*	+	+	NV	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Bruce, James (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Burch, Tom (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	NV	+
Butler, Denver (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Butler, Dwight (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Carr, James (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Cherry, Mike (D)	+	+	+	NV	+	-	+	+	+	+
Clark, Larry (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Clark, Perry (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Collins, Hubert (D)	+	+	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+
Comer, James (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Cornett, Howard (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Couch, Tim (R)	NV	+	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+
Crenshaw, Jesse (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Crimm, Ron (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Damron, Bob (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV
DeCesare, Jim (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Dedman, Milward (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Denham, Mike (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
DeWeese, Bob (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Draud, Jon (R)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	NV
Edmonds, Teddy (D)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Embry, C.B. Jr. (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV
Farmer, Bill (R)*	+	+	+	NV	+	-	+	+	+	+
Feeley, Tim (R)	+	+	NV	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Fischer, Joe (R)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Floyd, David (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Ford, Danny (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	NV	+	+
Gooch, Jim Jr. (D)	+	+	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+
Graham, Derrick (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Gray, J.R. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Hall, Keith (D)	NV	NV	NV	+	NV	NV	+	NV	+	+
Harmon, Mike (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Harper, Mary (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Henley, Melvin (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Higdon, Jimmy (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Hoffman, Charlie (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	NV	+	+
Hooverm, Jeff (R)	+	+	+	NV	+	-	+	NV	+	NV
Horlander, Dennis (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Jenkins, Joni (D)	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV

House Voting Record continued

	Electronic Health Network	Read to Achieve Initiative	Obesity Lawsuit Immunity	Small Business Loan Program	Electrical Licensing Reform	Criminal Record Expungement	State University Bonding Authority	Math & Reading Improvement	Comprehensive Tax Modernization	Small Business Health Insurance
	SB 2	SB 19	SB 103	SB 156	SB 184	HB 5	HB 45	HB 93	HB 272	HB 278
Keene, Dennis (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Kerr, Tom (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Lee, Jimmie (D)	+	NV	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Lee, Stan (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Lindsay, Gross (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Lynn, Gerald (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Marcotte, Paul (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Marzian, Mary Lou (D)	+	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	+	+	+	NV
McKee, Tom (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Meade, Chuck (D)	+	+	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+
Meeks, Reginald (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Miller, Charles (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Moberly, Harry Jr. (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Mobley, Russ (R)	+	+	NV	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Montell, Brad (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Napier, Lonnie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Nelson, Rick (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Nesler, Fred (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+
Nunn, Steve (R)	+	+	NV	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Owens, Darryl (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Palumbo, Ruth Ann (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Pasley, Don (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Pullin, Tanya (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rader, Marie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Rand, Rick (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+
Rasche, Frank (D)	+	+	NV	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV
Reinhardt, John David (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Richards, Jody (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Riggs, Steve (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Riner, Tom (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Rudy, Steven (R)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Shelton, Terry (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Siler, Charlie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Simpson, Arnold (D)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Smith, Ancel (D)	+	+	+	+	NV	-	+	+	+	+
Smith, Brandon (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Stacy, John Will (D)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Stein, Kathy (D)	+	+	NV	NV	+	-	+	NV	+	NV
Stewart, Jim (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Thompson, Tommy (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Turner, Tommy (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Upchurch, Ken (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV
Vincent, John (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Wayne, Jim (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV
Weaver, Mike (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Webb, Robin (D)	+	+	NV	NV	+	-	+	NV	+	+
Westrom, Susan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Wilkey, Rob (D)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Wuchner, Addia (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Yonts, Brent (D)	+	+	NV	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Official Vote Tally*	97-0	97-0	88-0	94-0	92-0	77-11	96-0	94-0	96-3	86-0

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Voting Record Reference Guide

What Legislation Did We Include and Why?

Any legislation included in this Kentucky Chamber 2005 Voting Record had to meet the following criteria:

- The Kentucky Chamber must have taken a “support” or “oppose” position on the legislation before the House or Senate roll call floor vote reported below.
- The Kentucky Chamber’s position had to reflect its Kentucky Business Agenda 2005 recommendations, released to all General Assembly members prior to the legislative session.
- Through either our weekly Frankfort InsideOut electronic publication or written communications, the Kentucky Chamber must have informed all legislators of its positions prior to the recorded vote.

Which House or Senate Floor Votes are Reported Here?

The chart below specifies which House or Senate floor roll call votes are included in this voting record.

Bill #	Sponsor	Description	Roll Call Used	Vote	Date	Position	Status
HB 5	Wilkey, R.	Criminal Records	Third Reading (H)	77-11	2/24	Opposed	Failed
HB 45	Damron, R.	University Bonding	Third Reading (H)	96-0	2/7	Supported	Failed
HB 93	Moberly, H.	Reading and Math	Third Reading (S)	36-0	3/4	Supported	Passed
			Final Passage (H)	94-0	3/8		
HB 272	Hoover, J.	Tax Reform	Conference Report (S)	37-2	3/8	Supported	Passed
			Conf. Report/Final Passage (H)	96-3	3/8		
HB 278	Thompson, T.	Health Insurance	Passage (S)	36-1	3/4	Supported	Passed
			Final Passage (H)	86-0	3/8		
SB 1	Williams, D.	Medical Malpractice	Third Reading (S)	21-13-2	2/18	Supported	Failed
SB 2	Mongiardo, D.	E-Health Network	Third Reading (S)	36-0	2/18	Supported	Passed
			Third Reading/Final Passage (H)	97-0	3/1		
SB 19	Kelly, D.	Read to Achieve	Third Reading (S)	37-0	2/7	Supported	Passed
			Third Reading/Final Passage (H)	97-0	3/4		
SB 70	McGaha, V.	Principal Hiring	Third Reading (S)	25-11	2/18	Supported	Failed
SB 103	Tapp, G.	Civil Liability	Third Reading (S)	33-1	2/10	Supported	Passed
			Third Reading/Final Passage (H)	88-0	2/28		
SB 156	Tapp, G.	Small Bus. Loans	Third Reading (S)	37-0	2/17	Supported	Passed
			Third Reading/Final Passage (H)	94-0	3/8		
SB 184	Tapp, G.	Electrical Licensing	Third Reading (S)	37-0	2/17	Supported	Passed
			Third Reading/Final Passage (H)	92-0	3/2		

(H) - House (S) - Senate



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