

2006 Kentucky General Assembly

Voting Record



Kentucky Chamber

Uniting Business. Advancing Kentucky.

2006 Regular and Extraordinary Sessions delivered improvements in education, regulatory reform, health care and important energy initiatives. Legislators made great strides in 2006, both in the regular session of the General Assembly and in the special session that followed. Progress on education policy and funding, research on developing new energy sources, health and wellness initiatives, reducing the burden and liability of environmental clean up, and encouraging greater investment in the deployment of telecommunication technologies are some of the key items. The legislature also ignored proposed changes to workers' compensation that would have increased costs dramatically, stopped significant expansion of collective bargaining for public employees, ended discussion of large employer health insurance mandates and defeated a host of other proposals that would have increased costs on businesses of all sizes.

During 2006, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce worked with business groups of all sizes to advocate for a consensus on small business relief. Although it took a special legislative session to accomplish this goal, small and large businesses alike will benefit from the work of the Kentucky General Assembly. The relief includes a \$3 million total exemption from the alternative minimum calculation, graduated relief for businesses that have between \$3 million and \$6 million in gross profits or gross receipts and reduces the corporate tax rate to 6 percent in 2007. It also included provisions to simplify the tax code by conforming to the federal tax code.

This year, the Kentucky Chamber reviewed 1,012 bills and 666 resolutions to determine business impact. This initiated the need to focus our lobbying efforts on roughly 325 pieces of legislation, many of which could have impacted your bottom line or business processes substantially. Special thanks go out to the Kentucky Chamber members that responded in big ways to our Action Alerts on key Chamber priorities. The results of the Chamber's lobbying efforts, as well our members' responses, are displayed in the following key pieces of legislation that the Kentucky Chamber is pleased to highlight.

Bills Used for Both the Senate and the House

SB 130: Education Accountability and Assessment

Sets the stage for greater accountability and more effective preparation by requiring high school students to take the ACT test to gauge individual progress. The law also encourages students to take the WorkKeys exam, which is a job skills assessment system measuring real-world skills. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation enacted.*

HB 646: Governor's Wellness Program

This legislation establishes the Governor's Wellness and Physical Activity Initiative to implement a health, wellness and fitness program for Kentucky and to promote a healthy lifestyle for all citizens of the commonwealth. The cost of employer health plans is negatively impacted by unhealthy lifestyles, making this a good step towards slowing the growth of health care costs. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation enacted.*

HB 408: Environmental Suit Streamlining

This new law ensures that a covenant not to sue shall preclude any suit or claim by the state for civil or administrative enforcement action against the applicant for failure to perform remediation on a brownfields redevelopment project. The bill also moves control over the Asbestos Emergency Response Act from the Division of Air Quality to the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation enacted.*

HB 299: Energy Independence

This measure directs the Kentucky Office of Energy Policy to develop a comprehensive strategy to produce transportation fuels from fossil energy and biomass resources, including the conversion of coal-to-liquid fuels, as well as ethanol produced from corn and other agriculture products. Another provision of the bill would require the state's Finance and Administration Cabinet to require bidders for state construction projects to consider energy efficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation enacted.*

HB 295: Small Business Tax Relief

During the Regular Session, the House and Senate versions of HB 295 differed on two specific points: the House version created a \$3 million exemption from the Alternative Minimum Calculation (AMC), but delayed the corporate tax rate reduction for two years; the Senate provided a \$1 million exemption from the AMC and did not delay the corporate tax reduction. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation failed when House and Senate could not agree during the regular legislative session.*

HB 1: Small Business Tax Relief

During the 2006 Extraordinary Session of the General Assembly, a consensus was reached to provide substantial relief for small businesses. Consistent with Chamber policy, the legislation incorporated the most favorable provisions of the previous House and Senate versions. It included a \$3 million exemption from the AMC and reduced the corporate tax rate to 6 percent in 2007 as scheduled. It also included provisions to simplify the tax code by conforming to the federal tax code. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation enacted.*

HB 374: E-Reg Notification

This new law was a top Kentucky Chamber priority this session. It creates an Internet-based regulatory notification system, requires a cost/benefit analysis by state agencies on the impact of a proposed regulation on business and creates the position of small business ombudsman in each agency to assist small businesses. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation enacted.*

HB 380: The Executive Budget

While broader reforms were not enacted, the budget contains limited relief from the **alternative minimum tax calculation**. Small businesses with less than \$2 million in gross receipts are exempt from the calculation, with additional relief on a declining scale for up to **\$10 million** in gross receipts. The budget also adds more money for primary and postsecondary education, increases teacher pay, adds more days in the school year, and includes other key Chamber priorities such as healthcare transparency. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation enacted.*

Bills Used Only in Senate Voting Record

SB 1: Tort Reform

Bills were introduced, but broad-based tort reform, and medical malpractice tort reform were not addressed by the 2006 General Assembly. The Kentucky Chamber will continue to educate legislators on the critical importance of these issues to business. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation failed.*

Bills Used Only in House Voting Record

HB 5: Full-Day Kindergarten

An increase in funding coupled with mandatory kindergarten needed additional scrutiny and was too much to bite off this session. *Kentucky Chamber supported; legislation was not considered in the Senate.*

HB 93: Criminal Expungement

Would have allowed persons convicted of one Class D felony or a series of Class D felonies arising out of a single event to petition to have their record expunged. *Kentucky Chamber opposed; legislation was not considered in the Senate.*

HB 399: Comparable Worth

Would have created an arbitrary standard designed to prohibit sex-based wage discrimination on jobs of comparable worth. If passed, this would have increased litigation of hiring practices and created a so-called "gray" area in Kentucky business hiring practices that could open businesses up to numerous lawsuits. *Kentucky Chamber opposed; legislation was not considered in the Senate.*

HB 420: Workers' Compensation

Would have created an expansion of presumptions in Workers' Compensation cases. *Kentucky Chamber opposed; legislation was not considered in the Senate.*

House Voting Record

	ACT Testing For All High School Students	Early Childhood Education Development	Small Business Tax Relief	Streamlined Regulatory Notification for Small Businesses	Expungement of Criminal Records of Convicted Felons	Arbitrary Comparable Worth Mandate	Increase Presumptions in Workers' Comp Claims	Governor's Wellness Initiative	Comprehensive Energy Strategy Legislation	Asbestos Legal Reform	The State Budget	Small Business Tax Relief 2006 Extraordinary Session
	SB 130	HB 5	HB 295	HB 374	HB 93	HB 399	HB 420	HB 646	HB 299	HB 408	HB 380	HB 1
Chamber Position	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
Adams, Royce (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Adkins, Rocky (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Arnold, Adrian (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Arnold, John Jr. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ballard, Eddie (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Barrows, Joe (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Baugh, Sheldon (R)*	+	NV	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Belcher, Carolyn (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bowen, Joe (R)*	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bratcher, Kevin (R)	+	NV	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+
Brinkman, Scott (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Bruce, James (D)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	NV	+	NV	+	+	+
Burch, Thomas (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Butler, Denver (D)	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	NV
Butler, Dwight (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Carr, James (R)*	+	NV	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	NV
Cherry, Mike (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Clark, Larry (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Collins, Hubert (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Comer, James (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Cornett, Howard (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Couch, Tim (R)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+
Crenshaw, Jesse (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Crimm, Ron (R)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Damron, Bob (D)*	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
DeCesare, Jim (R)*	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+
Dedman, Milward (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Denham, Mike (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
DeWeese, Bob (R)*	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Draud, Jon (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Edmonds, Teddy (D)	-	+	+	+	NV	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Embry, C.B. Jr. (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Farmer, Bill (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Fischer, Joe (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Floyd, David (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ford, Danny (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gooch, Jim Jr. (D)	+	+	+	NV	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+
Graham, Derrick (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+
Gray, J.R. (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hall, Keith (D)	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV
Harmon, Mike (R)*	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Harper, Mary (R)*	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Henley, Melvin (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Higdon, Jimmy (R)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	NV	+	+	+
Hoffman, Charlie (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Hoover, Jeffery (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
Horlander, Dennis (D)	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jenkins, Joni (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Key to Symbols

P Passed/Abstained | NV Did not vote | * Indicates Representatives who face an opponent in the Fall 2006 General Election

**House
Voting Record
continued**

	ACT Testing For All High School Students	Early Childhood Education Development	Small Business Tax Relief	Streamlined Regulatory Notification for Small Businesses	Expungement of Criminal Records of Convicted Felons	Arbitrary Comparable Worth Mandate	Increase Presumptions in Workers' Comp Claims	Governor's Wellness Initiative	Comprehensive Energy Strategy Legislation	Asbestos Legal Reform	The State Budget	Small Business Tax Relief 2006 Extraordinary Session
	SB 130	HB 5	HB 295	HB 374	HB 93	HB 399	HB 420	HB 646	HB 299	HB 408	HB 380	HB 1
Keene, Dennis (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+
Kerr, Tom (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lee, Jimmie (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lee, Stan (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+
Lindsay, Gross (D)**	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Lynn, Gerald (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Marcotte, Paul (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
Marzian, Mary Lou (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
McKee, Tom (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Meade, Chuck (D)***	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Meeks, Reginald (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV
Miller, Charles (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Moberly, Harry Jr. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mobley, Russ (R)*	+	+	+	NV	+	-	-	+	NV	+	+	+
Montell, Brad (R)*	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Napier, Lonnie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Nelson, Rick (D)*	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Nesler, Fred (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Nunn, Steve (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Osborne, David (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	NV
Owens, Darryl (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Palumbo, Ruth Ann (D)	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Pasley, Don (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Pullin, Tanya (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rader, Marie (R)	+	+	+	+	NV	NV	-	+	+	+	+	+
Rand, Rick (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rasche, Frank (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Reinhardt, John David (R)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+	+
Richards, Jody (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Riggs, Steve (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Riner, Tom (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Rudy, Steven (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Shelton, Terry (R)*	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Siler, Charlie (R)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Simpson, Arnold (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+
Smith, Ancel (D)	-	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+	+
Smith, Brandon (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stacey, John Will (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stein, Kathy (D)	-	+	NV	+	+	+	NV	+	NV	NV	+	+
Stewart, Jim (R)*	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Thompson, Tommy (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Turner, Tommy (R)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Upchurch, Ken (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
Vincent, John (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wayne, Jim (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Weaver, Mike (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Webb, Robin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Weston, Ron (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Westrom, Susan (D)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wilkey, Rob (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wuchner, Addia (R)	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
Yonts, Brent (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Official Vote Tally*	90-9	96-0	98-0	97-0	76-21	72-22	88-7	99-0	93-0	98-0	98-2	95-0

Senate Voting Record

	ACT Testing For All High School Students	State Budget Bill	Small Business Tax Relief	Streamlined Regulatory Notification Bill for Small Businesses	Medical Malpractice Insurance Reform	Governor's Wellness Initiative	Comprehensive Energy Strategy Legislation	Asbestos Legal Reform	Small Business Tax Relief 2006 Extraordinary Session
	SB 130	HB 380	HB 295	HB 374	SB 1	HB 646	HB 299	HB 408	HB 1
Chamber Position	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Blevins, Walter Jr. (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Borders, Charlie (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Boswell, David (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Buford, Tom (R)	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+
Carroll, Julian (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Clark, Perry (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Denton, Julie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gibson, Carroll (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Guthrie, Brett (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Harper-Angel, Denise (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Harris, Ernie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jenson, Tom (R)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Jones, Ray II (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	NV	NV
Kelly, Dan (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Kerr, Alice (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+
Leeper, Robert (I)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
McGaha, Vernie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Mongiardo, Daniel (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Neal, Gerald (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	NV
Palmer, R.J. II (D)	+	+	+	+	NV	+	+	+	+
Pendleton, Joey (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Rhoads, Jerry (D)*	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Ridley, Dorsey (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Roeding, Dick (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Sanders, Ritchie (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Scoresone, Ernesto (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Seum, Dan (R)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Shaughnessy, Tim (D)	NV	+	+	+	NV	+	+	NV	+
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)*	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Winters, Ken (R)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Worley, Ed (D)*	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+
Official Vote Tally*	37-0	38-0	38-0	38-0	21-15	37-0	37-0	36-0	36-0

* 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.

Key to Symbols

P Passed/Abstained | NV Did not vote | * Senators who face an opponent in the Fall 2006 General Election

Explanation of the 2006 Kentucky Chamber 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 2006 General Assembly and 2006 Extraordinary Session. Although we took positions on several bills during the session, the voting record includes only those that received a full 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 legislation 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. To access the language of the bills highlighted in this document, the Kentucky Chamber invites you to visit the Legislative Research Commission’s Web site at www.lrc.state.ky.us.



Kentucky Chamber

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