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Postsecondary Education Task Force recommendations to be released at summit

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Nov. 19, 2007) – A summit set for **Dec. 4 in Louisville** will feature the release of the report and recommendations of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce's Postsecondary Education Task Force.

Kentucky's governor and governor-elect, college and university officials, legislators and business and civic leaders have been invited to the event, scheduled for **10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Louisville Marriott Downtown.**

In addition to reviewing the task force recommendations, participants will hear a keynote address from **Dr. Brian K. Fitzgerald, executive director of the national Business-Higher Education Forum.** The forum is an organization of Fortune 500 CEOs, prominent college and university presidents, and foundation leaders working to address the nation's education challenges to enhance U.S. competitiveness.

The task force, chaired by Victor A. Staffieri, chairman, CEO and president of E.ON U.S., is made up of corporate leaders from throughout Kentucky. It was established in April to conduct an independent assessment of postsecondary education to determine what has been accomplished since reforms were enacted in 1997 and what must be done if the state is to reach its goals for educational attainment and income growth.

A comprehensive review was conducted for the task force by the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems of Boulder, Colo. The work included data analysis; interviews with postsecondary officials, state officeholders, and business leaders; and nine public forums held across the state to solicit the opinions of employers, educators, students and other citizens.

"Kentucky's top business leaders have spent more than eight months evaluating the state's higher education system," said Kentucky Chamber President and CEO Dave Adkisson. "On Dec. 4, they will report their findings and their bold recommendations about how higher education can move forward during the coming decade."

About the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

From its beginnings in 1946 as a bipartisan voice for business at the state Capitol, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce has evolved into the premier business association in the state. Today the Chamber represents more than 12,000 business leaders—from Fortune 500 companies and family-owned shops—which share a strong interest in the state's economic future. Kentucky employers benefit from a broad range of services offered through Chamber membership: year-round lobbying, timely communications on business issues, publications and seminars on evolving regulations and policies, and a variety of other member benefits.

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