



Kentucky Chamber
Uniting Business. Advancing Kentucky.

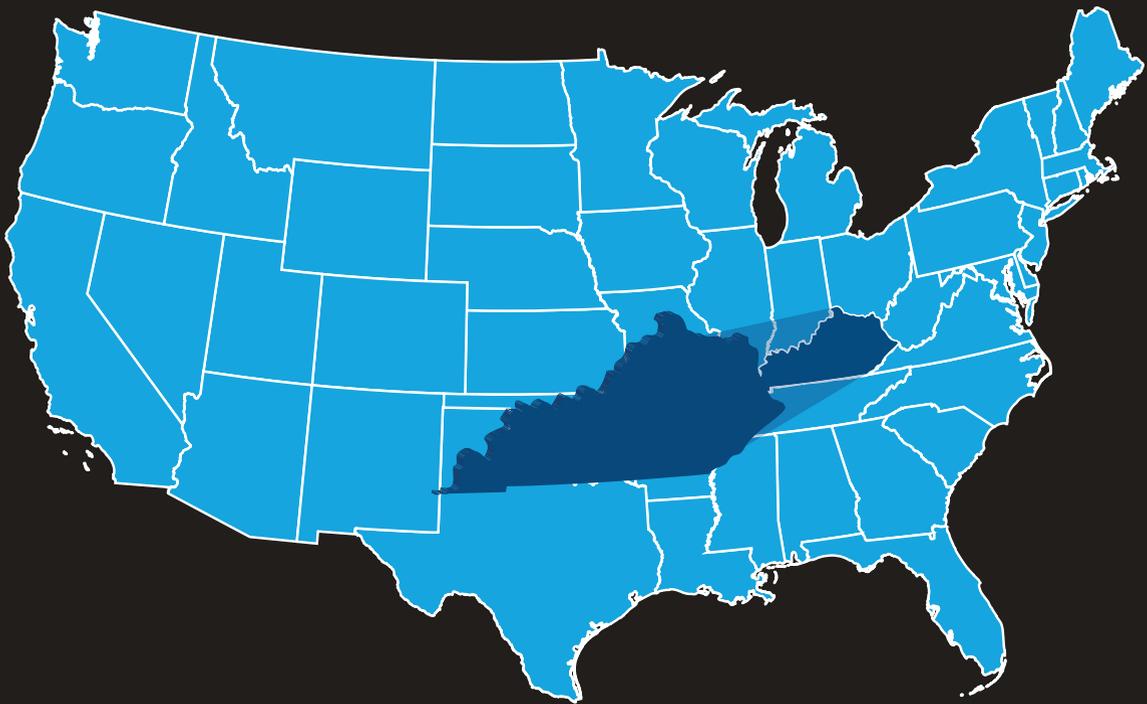


Results for **2024** **Business**

What passed. What didn't. And what it means to your bottom line.

Legislature Tackles Priorities to

Grow Jobs, Invest in Kentucky's Future





Ashli Watts

PRESIDENT & CEO

Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

Coming off a historic session in 2023, the Kentucky Chamber focused its efforts in 2024 on priorities that align with “Kentucky’s Winning Strategy,” the business community’s new unifying plan for talent attraction, business growth, and workforce development.

With that unifying vision in mind, the Chamber continued its work during the 2024 session to pass impactful legislation and a responsible budget that makes significant investments in the Commonwealth’s future.

Throughout this session, the Chamber worked diligently to ensure no new taxes were placed on businesses following the recommendations from the Tax Foundation’s recent report on sales tax in Kentucky. The General Assembly also held the line on spending and preserved a healthy Budget Reserve Trust Fund, potentially paving the way to hit future revenue triggers that will further reduce Kentucky’s personal income tax.

The Chamber has been a vocal advocate for solving workforce challenges. This includes ensuring that Kentucky has a strong child care system. The biennial budget makes a variety of investments in child care to support working families and crucial early childhood education. The budget also prioritizes the Commonwealth’s future workforce by increasing the per-pupil funding for K-12 students by three percent in 2025 and an additional six percent in 2026.

Additionally, House Bill 561 represents a key victory for reducing child care barriers for working families by encouraging collaboration between local governments, area development districts, and community stakeholders to become a designated “Certified Child Care Community.”

With technology evolving more rapidly than ever, the Chamber successfully made the case for a pair of bills to set up a regulatory framework for autonomous vehicles to operate in Kentucky and give data privacy protections to consumers.

The Chamber also supported legislation to further strengthen Kentucky’s signature industries. With the passage of Senate Bill 299, the General Assembly established the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming Corporation to bring more oversight to legal forms of gambling. The legislature also passed Senate Bill 50 to allow craft distillers to self-distribute a limited amount of product in the state.

While politics will always play some role in determining the future direction of our state, many of the policies enacted in 2024, including the budget, were passed with bipartisan support.

The investment in our future workforce has never been stronger, and I am confident the efforts of this session will pay dividends for years to come.

The Chamber applauds lawmakers for their work on another impactful session and looks forward to further strengthening our relationships and advocacy efforts to make Kentucky a better place to live, work, and do business for generations to come.

“The investment in our future workforce has never been stronger, and I am confident the efforts of this session will pay dividends for years to come.”



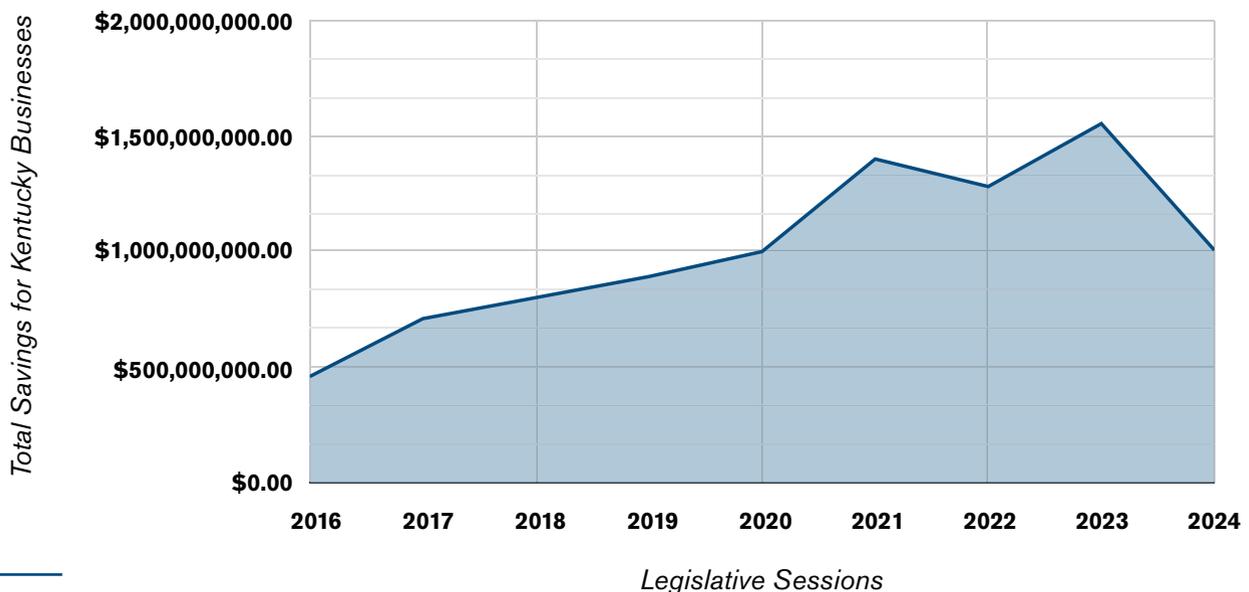
THE KENTUCKY CHAMBER'S ADVOCACY EFFORTS:

Saving Money for Kentucky Businesses

Following two historic legislative sessions in 2022 and 2023, the Kentucky Chamber's advocacy efforts continue to result in major returns for Kentucky's business community, saving businesses an estimated **\$1.006 billion** in the 2024 legislative session. This equates to savings of **\$589 per employee**. These savings come on top of unprecedented state investments in 2024 in Chamber priority areas like education, infrastructure, workforce, and economic development. Our estimates of savings for Kentucky employers are limited to bills whose impacts are quantifiable and therefore do not consider the totality of legislation supported or opposed by the Chamber.

The 2024 session marks the fifth session in a row of savings equal to **more than a billion dollars for the business community** thanks to the General Assembly and the Chamber's aggressive advocacy. Every dollar saved for businesses is another dollar to be reinvested in the Commonwealth's economy. In total, the **Kentucky Chamber's advocacy efforts have saved Kentucky employers \$8.302 billion dollars since 2016, equating to \$4,855 per employee.**¹

Savings for Kentucky Businesses, 2016-2024



¹ Estimates of savings for businesses are compiled by the Kentucky Chamber Center for Policy and Research, using data made available by the Legislative Research Commission and other publicly accessible resources and reports. The per employee estimate is based on a count of 1,710,000 nonfarm payrolls in Kentucky as of January 2024, excluding government sector payrolls.

2024 SAVINGS

TOTAL SAVINGS **\$1.006** Billion

\$589 per employee in the Commonwealth

Legislation

Estimated Annual Savings

*(To the Kentucky Business Community
Under Normal Economic Conditions)*

HB 6

Child Care Support — **Passed**

House Bill 6 included several key child care provisions in support of workforce participation. While much more remains to be done to ensure access to quality child care in Kentucky, these provisions are important and will help support providers, families, children, and employers. An exact fiscal estimate of the impact of all the child care provisions in House Bill 6 is not currently possible, but we estimate that the legislature's decision to continue allowing child care workers to automatically qualify for the Child Care Assistance Program could save Kentucky employers \$127 million in anticipated turnover costs if the program had been discontinued. This excludes costs associated with employee absences and reduced consumer spending. Allowing child care workers to automatically qualify for the state's subsidy program supports child care providers and helps ensure slots are available for children and their families.

\$127
Million

HB 15

Reasonable Data Privacy Standards — **Passed**

House Bill 15 imposes new data privacy standards on employers that are more reasonable than legislation filed in both the 2023 and 2024 legislative sessions. Data mandates, like those proposed by Senate Bill 15 (same in each session), would cost employers an estimated \$600 million in compliance costs, market inefficiencies, and litigation based on a research model created by the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. Because House Bill 15 applies to fewer businesses and has similarities with laws passed in competitor states, we estimate it would save impacted employers \$300 million relative to alternative policies proposed.

\$300
Million

Legislation

Estimated Annual Savings

*(To the Kentucky Business Community
Under Normal Economic Conditions)*

HB 8

Tax Updates with No New Business Sales Taxes — **Passed**

House Bill 8 included several tax updates, including a welcomed new \$5 million income tax credit for sales taxes paid by businesses on qualified broadband investments. The bill included no new expansions of the state sales tax base to business purchases or proposals to erode current business sales tax exemptions. Ensuring a competitive state sales tax was a top priority of the Chamber heading into the 2024 session, and the Chamber partnered with the Tax Foundation to produce a report explaining the negative economic implications of taxing business inputs. Based on analysis of historical sales tax changes that have included business purchases, we estimate that subjecting more business purchases to the sales tax base can cost Kentucky employers up to \$70 million or more per year in higher taxes. Business purchases already make up 43 percent of Kentucky sales tax revenues.

\$75
Million

HB 417, HB 797
& SB 42

Employer Wage Mandates — **Defeated**

While Kentucky employers have significantly increased employee compensation in recent years, new wage mandates would still be costly for many businesses, especially smaller firms. Using estimates by the Congressional Budget Office for similar legislative proposals at the federal level, we estimate that legislative proposals like **House Bill 797** – which seeks to impose a \$17 minimum wage and index future increases to inflation – would cost Kentucky employers an estimated \$193 million and lead to reduced employment and less job growth in the state.

\$193
Million

HB 508
& SB 185

Reinstatement of Prevailing Wage — **Defeated**

Kentucky's repeal of its prevailing wage statutes in 2017 has reduced costs for businesses and state and local governments. Legislative proposals in the 2024 session sought to reverse this progress. Past estimates of savings for employers have been adjusted for inflation in this estimate.

\$236
Million

HB 731

Reversal of Tax Reform — **Defeated**

House Bill 731 sought to replace Kentucky's flat individual income tax with an outdated progressive structure, effectively reversing critical tax reform gains since 2018. This bill runs counter to the Kentucky Chamber's top legislative priority of phasing out the state's individual income tax and would have cost taxpayers an estimated \$640 million, according to media reports. It also would have directly raised taxes on many small business owners who pay taxes on business income as pass-through entities, costing these employers and entrepreneurs an estimated \$74 million in higher taxes.

\$74
Million

HB 320

Statute of Limitations for Employment Claims — **Passed**

House Bill 320 brought Kentucky's statute of limitations for employment-related claims into closer alignment with federal standards and competitor states. Thanks to this legislation, Kentucky's statute of limitations for most employment claims will be reduced from five years to three. While this will unlikely result in less litigation for Kentucky employers, it will protect employers from expensive stale claims and reduce administrative costs associated with protecting against possible litigation.

Indeterminate

SB 148

Third-Party Lawsuit Loans — **Defeated**

Senate Bill 148 would have legitimized third-party lawsuit lending in Kentucky. This would drive up the overall cost of litigation and make Kentucky's legal liability climate even more uncompetitive.

Indeterminate

HB 195, HB 196
& HB 237

Employer Leave Mandates — **Defeated**

Lawmakers proposed numerous new leave mandates on employers. While many of these proposals were well-intentioned, they would have raised compliance, litigation, and direct costs for employers, negatively harming job growth, wages, and economic investments in Kentucky.

Indeterminate



Historic Budget Session Yields Meaningful Investments and Tax Tweaks

The budget is always the focal point of even-year sessions in Kentucky, but state spending loomed larger than usual in 2024. The General Assembly began this session with a Budget Reserve Trust Fund balance of \$3.7 billion and an anticipated surplus for the end of fiscal year 2024. Key questions included how the state might reinvest taxpayer dollars in the Trust Fund, what budget areas would be prioritized, and whether further tax code reforms would be made.

House Bill 1 served as a historic legislative proposal that outlined one-time investments of \$2.7 billion from the Budget Reserve Trust Fund in more than 200 projects across the state ranging from higher education to research and development. Critically, the bill appropriated \$450 million to state and local road projects in addition to the state's two-year road and highway plan, which reflects years of advocacy by the business community. A budget clean-up bill, Senate Bill 91, also appropriated \$300 million in matching funds for the I-69 Bridge and Mountain Parkway projects.

Senate Appropriations and Revenue Committee Chair Chris McDaniel and House Appropriations and Revenue Committee Chair Jason Petrie each emphasized that the historic one-time spending is a direct result of thoughtful fiscal discipline by the legislature in recent years.

House Bill 1 appropriately carved out spending from the state's formula for reducing individual income taxes. That formula, established by Chamber-priority legislation in 2022, was designed to account for reoccurring spending – not one-time investments like those in House Bill 1.

House Bill 6 was the state's two-year spending plan, totaling \$14.8 billion in fiscal year 2025 and \$15.2 billion in fiscal year 2026. The budget increased funding in key Chamber priority areas such as child care, K-12 education, postsecondary education, student financial aid, workforce development, pensions, and economic development.

Following multiple sessions of major tax reforms, House Bill 8 included provisions such as new reporting requirements for the Department of Revenue to support taxpayer transparency, a new tax amnesty program, an updated Internal Revenue Code reference date, and a new income tax credit for sales and use taxes paid on items associated with qualified broadband investments. House Bill 8 notably did not include any new sales taxes on business purchases, which was a top Chamber priority in 2024.

The investments in House Bill 1 and House Bill 6 will likely yield significant economic returns for Kentucky in future years. Meanwhile, lawmakers positioned the state for continued progress on tax reform with careful attention to state spending and modest changes to state tax policy in House Bill 8.



Rep. Samara Heavrin (R-Leitchfield) and Kentucky Chamber Senior Vice President of Public Affairs Kate Shanks testify on House Bill 179, legislation to authorize insurers to offer paid family leave insurance.

Chamber Leads Efforts to Pass **Critical Workforce Legislation**

Since the Kentucky Chamber Foundation published "20 Years in the Making: Kentucky's Workforce Crisis," significant strides have been made to address this pressing issue through legislative action. In 2024, the momentum continued as the Kentucky Chamber worked diligently with the General Assembly to pass several crucial priorities to boost the state's workforce and resolve the Commonwealth's workforce crisis.

During the 2024 session, the General Assembly enacted several policies to address Kentucky's persistent child care shortage. One notable piece of legislation is House Bill 561, sponsored by Rep. Samara Heavrin, which promotes a collaborative effort among local governments, area development districts, and community stakeholders to receive "Certified Child Care Community" designations. This legislation is intended to help reduce barriers to opening child care centers across the Commonwealth. Additionally, the General Assembly allocated \$62.8 million of state funds for child care investments. These investments encompass funding for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), the Employee Child Care Assistance Partnership, early childhood development scholarships, and initiatives such as the Innovations in Early Childhood grant program. These robust investments underscore a significant commitment to supporting workforce participation by addressing barriers related to child care.

Furthermore, lawmakers passed legislation to authorize insurers to offer paid family leave insurance plans. House Bill 179, championed by Rep. Samara Heavrin, empowers Kentucky employers to offer more comprehensive benefits to their workforce, which gives Kentuckians more options when it comes to caring for family members.

"House Bill 179 opens up the insurance market for employers to be able to get paid family leave for their employees. It's a benefit for small businesses or large businesses, and I think this is a great tool in the toolbox for employers to have when looking at retention. Lots of other states have been doing this," said Rep. Samara Heavrin during an interview with The Bottom Line. "This legislation is NCOIL model legislation, so it's been vetted by the National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL). I think this is a really great start for Kentucky."

Efforts to reduce employment barriers for individuals with justice involvement were also introduced. Rep. Kevin Bratcher and Sen. Brandon Storm filed legislation for automatic expungement in the House and Senate, though these did not proceed to a vote. The House passed House Bill 124, sponsored by Rep. Emily Callaway, which is aimed at reforming the professional licensing process for individuals with criminal records. However, it did not advance in the Senate.

Pro-Business Legislative Victories

Many pro-business victories were enacted in the **2024 session of the General Assembly.**

State Budget

HB 6

Allocates appropriations measures providing funding and establishing conditions for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Autonomous Vehicles

HB 7

Creates a regulatory framework for the operation of autonomous vehicles.

Data Privacy

HB 15

Establishes a data privacy framework that meets the needs of consumers in a way that is workable for businesses and consistent with other states, including some surrounding states.

Paid Family Leave

HB 179

Authorizes voluntary paid family leave insurance in Kentucky.

Statute of Limitations

HB 320

Shortens the statute of limitations for employment-related claims to bring Kentucky in line with competitor states.

Housing Planning

HB 443

Ensures that local laws relating to subdivision plats and development are in the form of objective standards.

Certified Child Care Communities

HB 561

Supports economic development and zoning reforms by encouraging local communities to address barriers to new child care services.

Filling Stations

HB 581

Prohibits local governments from restricting the ability of a retail filling station to locate in areas in which similar businesses are allowed to locate.

Civic Literacy

HB 535

Broadens the civic literacy curriculum that high schools can offer students.

Postsecondary Research Funding

SB 1

Establishes the endowed research fund to promote research consortiums between two or more public universities.

Environmental Audit Privilege

HB 136

Clarifies that the environmental audit privilege applies to areas served by air pollution control districts.

Distribution of Craft Distilled Spirits

SB 50

Supports craft distillers by allowing them to distribute up to 5,000 gallons of distilled spirits per year directly to a licensed retailer.

Horse Racing Oversight

SB 299

Replaces the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission and the Department of Charitable Gaming with the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming Corporation.

Artificial Intelligence Task Force

HCR 38

Creates the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Task Force to proactively study applications of AI and consumer protection.

Worksite Safety

SB 107 (HB 193)

Prohibits operating a vehicle in dangerous ways in a work zone and establishes penalties.

Alcohol Licensing

HB 439

Creates a new license to sell vintage distilled spirits in Kentucky, expands package licenses, and supports tourism.

School Safety

SB 2

Continues work to ensure school safety.

Revenue Administrative Writings

HB 122 (HB 8)

Requires the Department of Revenue to publish administrative writings.

BILLS THE KENTUCKY CHAMBER DEFEATED

Lawsuit Lending

SB 148

Would have authorized expensive lawsuit loans in Kentucky that prolong the duration of cases, leading to a less efficient tort system and higher costs for Kentuckians.

Employer Mandates

HB 128, HB 195, HB 196, HB 237, HB 288, HB 297, HB 417, HB 539, HB 797, SB 42, SB 66, & SB 135

Would have established new mandates for employers and limited the rights of employers regarding vaccination policies and other workplace standards.

Pro-Business Reform Rollbacks

HB 209, HB 210, HB 508, HB 523, & SB 185

Would have reversed previous reforms regarding worker's compensation, prevailing wage and unemployment insurance.

Tax Increase

HB 731

Would have raised the state income tax and repealed Kentucky's flat tax.

Harmful Data Mandates

SB 15

Would have imposed burdensome data mandates on employers.



Key Technology Legislation Aims to Boost Kentucky's Competitiveness

Technology is advancing more rapidly than ever, and lawmakers in Frankfort took action to keep Kentucky competitive in the technology space this session, authorizing autonomous vehicles in the Commonwealth, while also passing a comprehensive data privacy bill that offers protections for Kentuckians' personal information.

"After a burdensome data privacy bill passed the Senate last year that was opposed by the Kentucky Chamber, we worked over the interim with stakeholders to deliver something that was more workable for business," said Kate Shanks, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs at the Kentucky Chamber.

House Bill 15, which allows Kentuckians accessing the internet and social media platforms to exercise a set of rights pertaining to their individual data, was an important victory for the business community. With its passage, Kentucky law now aligns with legislation enacted in states like Virginia, Indiana, and Tennessee, thus avoiding the creation of a patchwork of laws for businesses operating in multiple states to follow.

"I'm proud to work with the multitude of groups across industry sectors, business organizations, retailers, privacy security and tech experts on a workable solution that accomplishes a primary goal, which would give consumers the right to protect their data. And House Bill 15 provides a much-needed baseline statutory framework," said Rep. Josh Branscum, sponsor of House Bill 15, while presenting the bill on the House floor.

The General Assembly passed House Bill 7 to allow autonomous vehicles to operate in the Commonwealth to address commercial truck driver shortages and support a growing economy. Sponsored by Rep. Josh Bray, House Bill 7, in its final form, included language requiring a human driver to be present in autonomous semi-trucks for the first two years after the bill would take effect. A similar bill passed the House and Senate in the 2023 legislative session but was ultimately vetoed. Bray emphasized how important the legislation was for Kentucky to remain competitive, citing that at least 25 states have enacted similar legislation.

"It's important within Kentucky that we try to be at the forefront of innovation, and it's important that we think long term about logistics and how we're going to move freight as economic growth expands and we have fewer workers to do it," Rep. Josh Bray said.

Additionally, Rep. Josh Bray sponsored House Concurrent Resolution 38 to establish a task force within the legislature to study trends in artificial intelligence and vet future bills in the interim.

Left on the Table

Several measures would have improved the economic climate of Kentucky. Unfortunately, the following positive, pro-business measures were not passed by the **2024 General Assembly**.

Limited Liability Entity Tax (LLET)

HB 55 & 120

Would have repealed the LLET and created an exemption for very small businesses.

Occupational Safety and Health

HB 437

Would have conformed enforcement of safety and health rules to federal standards.

Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarships

SB 7

Would have allowed for additional Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship funds for students attending noncertified schools.

Clean Slate

HB 569 & SB 218

Would have supported workforce participation by streamlining the expungement process for individuals with non-violent felony records.

Professional Licensing

HB 124

Would have allowed ex-offenders the ability to petition a licensing board or public employer before enrolling in required training to determine if their criminal record would be disqualifying.

Child Care Services

SB 203

Would have supported workforce participation through investments in high-quality child care and education.

Workplace Violence

HB 739

Would have allowed employers to seek a workplace violence protective order.

Local Taxes

HB 14

Would have proposed a constitutional amendment that allows for local tax reform.

Kentucky Chamber Senior Vice President of Public Affairs Kate Shanks and Rep. Nima Kulkarni (D-Louisville) discuss workforce issues.



2024 Chamber

Engagement



80

Business leaders participated in Small Business Day at the Capitol

Bills tracked throughout the legislative process

328

49

Legislative updates for key stakeholder groups



14

Testimonies in front of legislative committees

Local chambers of commerce engaged in the advocacy process

24



Local chamber professionals from across the state

2024 Session 100% Voters

The following legislators had a perfect score on pro-business issues during the 2024 legislative session.



Gary Boswell
Senator



Adam Bowling
Representative



Josh Branscum
Representative



Steve Bratcher
Representative



Josh Bray
Representative



Jared Carpenter
Senator



Danny Carroll
Senator



Mike Clines
Representative



Jonathan Dixon
Representative



Myron Dossett
Representative



Donald Douglas
Senator



Daniel Fister
Representative



Patrick Flannery
Representative



Ken Fleming
Representative



**Deanna Frazier
Gordon**
Representative



Chris Freeland
Representative



**Shelley Funke
Frommeyer**
Senator



Samara Heavrin
Representative



Jason Howell
Senator



Kevin Jackson
Representative



Matthew Koch
Representative



William Lawrence
Representative



Derek Lewis
Representative



Christian McDaniel
Senator



David Meade
Speaker Pro Tempore



Michael Meredith
Representative



Robby Mills
Senator



Amy Neighbors
Representative



Jason Nemes
House Majority Whip



David Osborne
Speaker of the House



Sarge Pollock
Representative



Phillip Pratt
Representative



Julie Raque Adams
Senate Majority
Caucus Chair



Rebecca Raymer
Representative



Steven Rudy
House Majority Leader



Brandon Smith
Senator



Thomas Smith
Representative



Damon Thayer
Senate Majority Leader



Killian Timoney
Representative



James Tipton
Representative



Ken Upchurch
Representative



Whitney Westerfield
Senator



Wade Williams
Representative



Gex Williams
Senator



Mike Wilson
Senate Majority Whip



Nick Wilson
Representative



Maxwell Wise
Senator

House

LEGISLATOR	DISTRICT	SUPPORT%	BUDGET HB 6	AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES HB 7	DATA PRIVACY HB 15	ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT PRIVILEGE HB 136	STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HB 320	HOUSING PLANNING HB 443	CERTIFIED CHILD CARE COMMUNITIES HB 561	FILLING STATIONS HB 581
Justice, Jacob	R-Elkhorn City	42%	X	X	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	X
King, Kimberly	R-Harrodsburg	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Koch, Matthew	R-Paris	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kulkarni, Nima	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Lawrence, William	R-Maysville	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lewis, Derek	R-London	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lewis, Scott	R-Hartford	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lockett, Matt	R-Nicholasville	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	X	Yes
Maddox, Savannah	R-Dry Ridge	58%	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Massaroni, Candy	R-Bardstow	42%	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
McCool, Bobby	R-Van Lear	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
McPherson, Shawn	R-Scottsville	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meade, David	R-Stanford	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meredith, Michael	R-Oakland	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Miles, Suzanne	R-Owensboro	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Moser, Kimberly	R-Taylor Mill	83%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Neighbors, Amy	R-Edmonton	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nemes, Jason	R-Middletown	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Osborne, David	R-Prospect	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Palumbo, Ruth Ann	D-Lexington	50%	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Petrie, Jason	R-Elkton	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pollock, Sarge	R-Campbellsville	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pratt, Phillip	R-Georgetown	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Proctor, Marianne	R-Union	58%	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Rabourn, Felicia	R-Pendleton	58%	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Rawlings, Steve	R-Burlington	67%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Raymer, Rebecca	R-Morgantown	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Raymond, Josie	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Riley, Steven	R-Glasgow	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Roarx, Rachel	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Roberts, Rachel	D-Newport	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Rudy, Steven	R-Paducah	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sharp, Scott	R-Ashland	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Smith, Thomas	R-Corbin	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stalker, Sarah	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Stevenson, Cherlynn	D-Lexington	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Stevenson, Pamela	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Tackett Laferty, Ashley	D-Martin	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tate, Nancy	R-Brandenburg	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thomas, Walker	R-Hopkinsville	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Timoney, Killian	R-Nicholasville	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tipton, James	R-Taylorsville	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Truett, Timmy	R-McKee	83%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Upchurch, Ken	R-Monticello	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wesley, Bill	R-Ravenna	83%	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
White, Richard	R-Morehead	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Williams, Wade	R-Earlinton	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Willner, Lisa	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Wilson, Nick	R-Williamsburg	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Witten, Susan	R-Louisville	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Former Kentucky Supreme Court Chief Justice John Minton, Rep. Robert Duvall (R-Bowling Green), and Kentucky Chamber President and CEO Ashli Watts testify on **House Bill 535**, legislation that addresses civic literacy for high school students.



POST-SECONDARY RESEARCH FUNDING SB 1	SCHOOL SAFETY SB 2	DISTRIBUTION OF CRAFT DISTILLED SPIRITS SB 50	HORSE RACING OVERSIGHT SB 299
Yes	X	X	X
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
X	No	Yes	No
X	No	X	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	X	Yes
X	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	No	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	No	X	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	X	Yes
Yes	Yes	X	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	X



Rep. Josh Bray (R-Mount Vernon) championed **House Bill 7**, legislation to allow autonomous vehicles to operate in the Commonwealth.



House Majority Leader Steven Rudy (R-Paducah) championed **House Bill 443**, legislation to ensure objective standards for housing development.

Kentucky Chamber Senior Vice President of Public Affairs Kate Shanks, Rep. Daniel Elliott (R-Danville), and Rob Hudson of Frost Brown Todd testify on **House Bill 320**, legislation that changes the statute of limitations to help ensure clarity in court cases between employers and employees.



2024 Legislative Voting Record Senate

LEGISLATOR	DISTRICT	SUPPORT%	BUDGET HB 6	AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES HB 7	DATA PRIVACY HB 15	ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT PRIVILEGE HB 136	STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HB 320	HOUSING PLANNING HB 443	CERTIFIED CHILD CARE COMMUNITIES HB 561	FILLING STATIONS HB 581
Berg, Karen	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Boswell, Gary	R-Owensboro	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Carpenter, Jared	R-Berea	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Carroll, Danny	R-Benton	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Chambers Armstrong, Cassie	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Deneen, Matthew	R-Elizabethtown	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Douglas, Donald	R-Nicholasville	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Elkins, Greg	R-Winchester	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Frommeyer, Shelley Funke	R-Alexandria	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Girdler, Rick	R-Somerset	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Givens, David	R-Greensburg	75%	Yes	Yes	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Harper Angel, Denise	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Higdon, Jimmy	R-Lebanon	83%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Howell, Jason	R-Murray	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mays Bledsoe, Amanda	R-Lexington	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
McDaniel, Christian	R-Ryland Heights	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Meredith, Stephen	R-Leitchfield	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mills, Robby	R-Henderson	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Neal, Gerald	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Nemes, Mike	R-Shepherdsville	83%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Raque Adams, Julie	R-Louisville	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Schickel, John	R-Union	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Smith, Brandon	R-Hazard	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Southworth, Adrienne	R-Lawrenceburg	64%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Stivers, Robert	R-Manchester	92%	Yes	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Storm, Brandon	R-London	92%	Yes	X	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thayer, Damon	R-Georgetown	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Thomas, Reginald	D-Lexington	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Tichenor, Lindsey	R-Smithfield	83%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turner, Johnnie	R-Harlan	92%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Webb, Robin	D-Grayson	67%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
West, Stephen	R-Paris	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Westerfield, Whitney	R-Fruit Hill	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wheeler, Phillip	R-Pikeville	92%	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Williams, Gex	R-Verona	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wilson, Mike	R-Bowling Green	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wise, Maxwell	R-Campbellsville	100%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yates, David	D-Louisville	42%	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No

Kentucky Chamber Center for Policy and Research Executive Director Dr. Charles Aull and Rep. Adam Bowling (R-Middlesboro) testify on **House Bill 739**, legislation that would have allowed employers to seek a workplace violence protective order.





POST- SECONDARY RESEARCH FUNDING SB 1	SCHOOL SAFETY SB 2	DISTRIBUTION OF CRAFT DISTILLED SPIRITS SB 50	HORSE RACING OVERSIGHT SB 299
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POST-SECONDARY RESEARCH FUNDING SB 1	SCHOOL SAFETY SB 2	DISTRIBUTION OF CRAFT DISTILLED SPIRITS SB 50	HORSE RACING OVERSIGHT SB 299
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	X	Yes
X	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	No	Yes	No



Senate President Robert Stivers (R-Manchester) was instrumental in ensuring passage of several top priorities of the business community.



Senate Majority Caucus Chair (R-Louisville) Julie Raque Adams provided leadership on important issues facing Kentucky's business community.

Senate Majority Leader Damon Thayer (R-Georgetown) provided critical leadership on a multitude of business issues and sponsored **Senate Bill 299** to create the Kentucky Horse Racing and Gaming Corporation. Leader Thayer will retire from the Senate after 12 years as majority floor leader.





Public Policy Councils

As the state's premier business advocate, the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce is a recognized and respected voice at the state Capitol. With thousands of members representing every major industry sector, the Chamber's diverse business policy initiatives converge upon one goal: a healthy, vibrant Kentucky economy. Ensuring that business has a voice in the legislative process, we are working with local business leaders to identify critical trends. As part of its advocacy mission, the Kentucky Chamber has developed several public policy councils composed of business leaders from around the state, each of which is responsible for developing legislative positions and priorities for their respective policy areas.

Energy & Environment



Mike Buckentin
Logan Aluminum, Inc.

Education & Workforce



John Megibben
Messer Construction
Company

Health Care



Mark Marsh
Owensboro Health

Kentucky Competitiveness



Les Fugate
Brown-Forman Corporation

Small Business



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Infrastructure & Technology Co-Chairs



Ed Quinn
RJ Corman
Railroad Group



Carlos Sanchez
AT&T Kentucky

Agriculture & Equine Co-Chairs



Anthony Koch
Hallway Feeds



Gemma Freeman
Stonestreet Thoroughbred
Holdings

Center for Policy & Research



Jennifer Barber
Frost Brown Todd

Inclusion Task Force Chair



Ray Daniels
Equity Solutions Group

Join a policy council today! If you are interested in joining a policy council contact

Mea Durham at mdurham@kychamber.com.



Board of Directors

The Kentucky Chamber is the state's largest business organization, representing businesses of all sizes throughout the Commonwealth. The Board of Directors is composed of 60 business leaders which work directly with the Chamber's public policy councils to form the organization's annual legislative agenda - the document which shapes our advocacy efforts each year.

Public Affairs & Communications Teams



Ashli Watts
President & CEO



Kate Shanks
Senior Vice President, Public Affairs



Jacqueline Pitts
Senior Vice President, Communications & Marketing



Charles Aull, PhD
Executive Director, Center for Policy & Research



John Cox
Director, Public Affairs



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Amy Cloud
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Kentucky Chamber

BEING A MEMBER OF THE KENTUCKY CHAMBER STRENGTHENS YOUR VOICE IN FRANKFORT & GIVES YOU A SEAT AT THE TABLE



The Kentucky Chamber serves as a bold ally for small businesses, not only amplifying their voices but also advocating on their behalf within the halls of the state Capitol. Being a member of the state's premier business organization is crucial to my efforts as they work every day to pass new laws to protect and grow our economy and ensure a strong workforce. The Chamber is a catalyst for growth, a strong convenor, and a powerful advocate for every business in the Commonwealth.



— **Raymond Daniels**,
Co-Founder, President & CEO
Equity Solutions Group, LLC

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A majority of the laws and regulations affecting Kentucky businesses are passed in Frankfort, not Washington.

You can't be at the Capitol on a daily basis, but we can. With the goal of closely monitoring the progress and facts of business-related legislation in Kentucky and delivering behind the scenes knowledge of state government, The Bottom Line breaks down complex policy issues for the business community.

Stay up to date at kychamberbottomline.com.



**CANDACE
MCGRAW**

BOARD CHAIR

*Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
CEO,
Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky
International Airport
Hebron*

“The Kentucky Chamber’s tireless advocacy at the state Capitol ensures that Kentucky businesses have a prominent seat at the legislative table, shaping policies that fuel growth, innovation, and economic opportunity statewide. I have seen our Chamber team and business leaders advocating for pro-growth policies and remain impressed by our results. We are grateful for the General Assembly’s work that aligns with ‘Kentucky’s Winning Strategy.’ It takes leadership to address the most critical issues facing Kentucky, and, together, we are making the Commonwealth the best place to live, work, and do business in the country.”

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Johnson & Johnson Services, Inc.
Kentucky Community and Technical College System
Kentucky League of Cities, Inc.
Kimball International
Laurel Grocery Company

Louisville Water Company
McBrayer PLLC
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National Grid Renewables
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Park Community Credit Union
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Pathways, Inc.
Pinnacle Treatment Centers
Piramal Pharma Solutions
Planters Bank, Inc.
Primary Care Centers of Eastern Kentucky
Republic Bank
Republic National Distributing Company
Robert W. Baird Co. Incorporated

Sandy's Racing & Gaming
Scotty's Contracting & Stone
Somerset Hardwood Flooring
Stantec
Steel Technologies
Stock Yards Bank and Trust
Stride Learning Company
Tennessee Valley Authority
Thoroughbred Engineering
T.J. Regional Health
Toyota Boshoku America
Verizon
Washington Penn Plastic Co., Inc.
Whitaker Bank
Wonderschool
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*Updated as of 4.30.24



Kentucky Chamber
Uniting Business. Advancing Kentucky.