COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
MICHAEL G. ADAMS

Dear Business Leaders of Kentucky:

The quality of our government is directly related to the quantity of those who engage, or don't, in voting and in community life. When Kentuckians take their voice for granted and fail to be active citizens, we all suffer. Representative democracy becomes unrepresentative, and the most extreme obtain disproportionate influence.

Although Kentucky – uniquely among red states – has made voting easier rather than harder over the past four years, voter turnout remains low. Low turnout is downstream from a larger civic disengagement we see in our Commonwealth, and only one of its symptoms. As leaders, we have the obligation and the opportunity to improve both.

To this end, I encourage you to consider implementing the following initiatives within your businesses:

1. **Educational Workshops**: Host workshops or information sessions to educate employees about the importance of voting, how to register, and the logistics of casting a ballot.
2. **Flexible Work Policies**: Offer flexible work hours, remote work, or paid voting leave to ensure that employees have the opportunity to vote without sacrificing their professional commitments, or compensation.
3. **Voter Registration Drives**: Organize voter registration drives within your workplace, and partner with local organizations or government agencies (like my Office) to facilitate the registration process.
4. **Employee Engagement Programs**: Create employee-led committees or initiatives focused on civic engagement and community involvement. Encourage employees to volunteer as poll workers – ideally, with paid leave – or participate in local government meetings.
5. **Promote Voting Resources**: Utilize internal communication channels, such as email newsletters or intranet platforms, to share voting resources and important election dates with your employees. Encourage open dialogue about civic engagement and provide avenues for employees to ask questions or seek assistance.

By taking action, together we can foster a culture of civic responsibility and increase voter turnout and community engagement in Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Adams

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