

CITIZEN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG

Vol. XXVIII No. 1

January/February 2019

The 2019 General Assembly: **OPPORTUNITY!**

Difficult issues are facing our Senators and Representatives, so they will need ALL the help they can get! (So, be sure to make your calls.)

Here's the "Bad News" for the 2019 General Assembly Session: There are 32 brand new Representatives in the State House of Representatives. That's 32 out of a total of 100 members. And, there is a significant crisis with the funding of the state's pensions, bringing with it a lot of frustration, generated over the last year, on both sides of the issue. More, this is the election year for the Executive Branch of state government, adding an additional layer of intensity to the pot. All of this adds up to a potential governmental "train-wreck" for the new legislators . . . and perhaps all of the legislators.

Add to that, with Kentucky already suffering from significant addictions to opioids, tobacco, alcohol and crack cocaine, there are some legislators who want to bring in casino-style and sports gambling and legalize recreational marijuana, the nation's number one "gateway drug" to other more substantial and debilitating drugs.

How is that good policy?

But here is the **GOOD NEWS**: Kentucky Christians are more interested now in doing their part in governance than they have been in a long time. And **THAT** is exactly what legislators need – they need people who will encourage them to do righteous things, people who will stand with them as they do righteous things, and people who will pray for them -- asking God to help them -- as they move

**Turn to
pages 2-5 for
information
on key bills &
issues of the
2019 Session**

**But here is the GOOD NEWS:
Kentucky Christians are more interested
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than they have been in a long time.**

to stand strong on the righteous things of our day, particularly on the cultural issues of today.

Note that the situations in Frankfort are not "Democrat" situations and they are not "Republican" situations. They are the "lay of the land" for both Parties, and our legislators, regardless of Party, must move forward to solve the state's (our) problems. The first week of the Session is complete and the bills that have been introduced are evidence that legislators are taking their task seriously. Nevertheless, they will need the support of people from their districts in order to

make 2019 a year of significance.

Everyone has a general sense of the truth of Edmund Burke's cogent, "*All it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.*" But it is most applicable in the public policy realm – the realm in which he labored.

Besides those pushing gambling and marijuana, other legislators are promoting bills that will strengthen family values. For instance, there are a number of bills that address the abortion-on-demand philosophy of the 1970s. There is a bill that protects free speech on college campuses, in response to the accusations of some that say conservative views are "hate speech" and should be into law the fact that parents have the basic right and

banned. Still another bill codifies responsibility to direct the upbringing of their children, something that is being challenged by United Nations activists.

"I believe the bottom line in this Session will be 'What do the people want?'" said Kent Ostrander, executive director of The Family Foundation. "If they want something and are willing to do the work and make the calls, they will get it!"

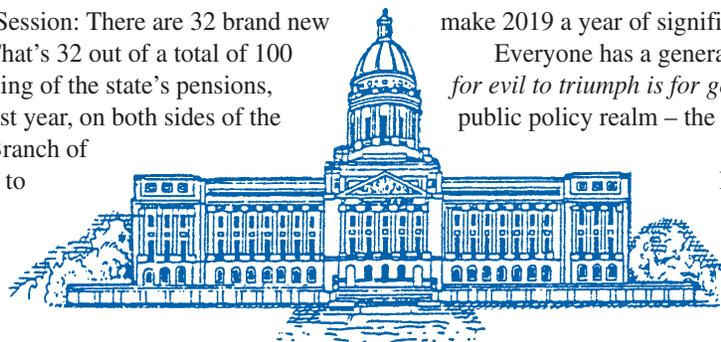
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Faith can move Kentucky forward!

NOW is the perfect time for those who are called to be "salt" and "light" to step forward in faith to make a significant difference. Just one individual can make a H-U-G-E difference with just a few hours of volunteer service as they help others in their county to be salt and light.

If you would like to "flavor" your community as the "salt" and enlighten your community as the "light," please go to page 8 and see what we can do together. It is just 2 to 3 hours of time.

YOU can be the difference!



Gambling is bad public policy! – **Please CALL!**

The efforts to expand gambling are coming from two directions: The Legislature, and the Executive Branch (using the courts).

The gambling industry, using its wealth and influence, is attacking Kentucky on two fronts in order to expand its grip on the finances of Kentucky families. Both of these efforts are coming to a head in 2019, so Kentucky citizens should get involved now.

Expansion through the Executive Branch

First, former Governor Steve Beshear set a gambling court case in motion in 2010. He had his Kentucky Horse Racing Commission, in league with the eight horse tracks, file suit in the Franklin Circuit Court in order to have it authorize “Historical Racing” slot machine-style gambling. The Family Foundation entered the case because, “It smelled a rat.”

The case has had all kinds of shenanigans take place over the last eight years and finally resulted in the judge deciding, last Oct. 24, that pari-mutuel wagering does not have to be “mutual.” (You can wager all by yourself on one of these machines and it is *still pari-mutuel* . . . and therefore legal.)

What????!!

The Family Foundation’s attorney, Stan Cave, who figured out each of the numerous deceptive arguments made during the case, has appealed the decision straight to the Kentucky Supreme Court, because that’s where it will ultimately belong. If the Supreme Court takes the case, serious questions should be answered before the end of the year.

One of the startling discoveries made by The Family Foundation, through its Freedom of Information Act inquiries, was the fact that neither the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission nor its overseeing Cabinet (The Public Protection Cabinet) had any research documents or white papers on the impact that the six new “Historical Racing” casinos will have on Kentucky families. That’s *terribly strange* given it is the “PUBLIC



PROTECTION Cabinet” ultimately in charge of this gambling expansion effort. (How is the Cabinet protecting the public?)

It is also why Gov. Bevin needs to address what is going on within his own Administration, his own Executive Branch.

Gambling expansion by the legislature

Secondly, pro-gambling legislators are working to expand gambling to out-of-state sports wagering companies as well as to in-state charitable gaming operations. At least these efforts are being done by the correct body – the General Assembly – which is the people’s branch of government, and the correct one for changes in public policy.

Fortunately, the expansion of gambling has been stopped for years by Kentucky citizens who rose to the occasion and squelched all the gambling money’s efforts with their voices, saying “No expansion of gambling.” This same tactic will work again this year if the people of Kentucky let their voices be heard.

The Bottom Line

Reality is this: In truth, government shouldn’t have the right to give asset “hunting licenses” to a few elite “connected” people, authorizing them to rip-off others. Even if it did, why would it? Citizens need to call and let their voices be heard. (*See below, left.*)

Gambling’s Four Policy Truths

Truth #1: The Family is targeted. Gambling doesn’t create new wealth; it only makes wealth change hands. Then where does all the money come from? Corporations can’t gamble, nor can businesses, institutions, schools, churches, nonprofits, nor civic groups – only Moms and Dads, and a few single people. In other words, all the *BILLIONS* of dollars that is gambled is just a shift of assets *FROM* the hands of the family *INTO* the hands of the gambling industry.

Truth #2: Businesses will lose. As families lose, businesses lose. Think about it – after all the losses, parents can’t afford to take the family out to eat, buy their children new school clothes, purchase a new refrigerator or finance a new home addition. Businesses suffer because money is *TAKEN OUT* of the economy. Remember, Las Vegas was built by *losers* – not winners.

Truth #3: Government will be corrupted. With millions going into the hands of the gambling industry, who becomes the greatest contributor and most influential group in the political process? The gambling industry will have the cash! Consider Nevada, home of Las Vegas: Their legislature was elected just like ours but has voted to legalize prostitution (because the gambling industry wanted it). And, there are 13 abortion clinics serving Las Vegas – population 640,000; Kentucky has one serving 4.3 million. Government changes!

Truth #4: The Vulnerable will be destroyed. Though families are targeted (*see #1 above*), finances aren’t the worst of the costs. Financial loss is just the beginning of a tragedy that all the family members experience. Some lives will be totally destroyed – marriage-damaging financial stress, alcoholism, drug use, child neglect and abuse, spouse neglect and abuse, divorce, depression, suicide, embezzlement, imprisonment and crime (both victim and perpetrator). And worse, children will lose their childhoods and be affected for a lifetime. Doctors have a policy regarding treatments: “First, do no harm.” Policy-makers in Frankfort would do well to apply this wisdom to the gambling question.

Therefore, . . . we must make two calls and speak to **BOTH the Executive Branch AND the Legislative Branch.**

Call 1-502-564-2611

Call & leave this message with the Governor’s receptionist:

“Please, Gov. Bevin, act to stop the ‘Historic Racing’ casinos.”

Call 1-800-372-7181

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave this message for “**all the legislators from my county (State Senators and Representatives) and copy this message to Senate President Stivers and House Speaker Osborne.**”

“Please vote against any gambling bill!” And, “Hold a hearing on the new ‘Historic Racing’ casinos.”

HC Resolution 5: Best path forward – **CALL!**

*Keep the good (medications) and eliminate the bad (contaminants, hallucinogens, etc.) In other words, do the **RESEARCH FIRST!***

Kentucky legislators are preparing for what will likely be a hot debate over a plant. Two bills to legalize marijuana and a resolution to expedite new marijuana medications were filed the first week of the 2019 General Assembly.

Currently, the federal government categorizes marijuana as a controlled substance and bans its use except for extracts that have gone through the research and approval process. However, many individual states have ignored federal law and acted on their own to legalize either “medical marijuana” or “recreational marijuana.”

“Medical marijuana” means the ingestion of all or part of the plant by smoking, vaping, swallowing or absorbing in some form. Generally, in states where it



has been legalized, a doctor’s recommendation allows people to grow marijuana for personal use. Others can be licensed to grow and sell the plant.

“Medical

“There are likely additional medications that can be developed. We just want them to go through the same process as every other medication to ensure people are helped, not harmed.”

*– Joyce Ostrander, policy analyst
The Family Foundation*

marijuana” supporters point out that the plant has medicinal purposes and insist that those benefits cannot be gotten from any other medicines as effectively as from ingesting or smoking marijuana. They claim that if “medical marijuana” is not legalized, pain and suffering will continue unnecessarily for many Kentuckians.

Despite claims that marijuana is not available in Kentucky, the facts are that three marijuana derivatives have been successfully extracted, properly researched, tested and approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and are available by prescription. A fourth is in clinical trials seeking approval.

In addition, hemp and its extract, CBD oil have recently been legalized. CBD oil is one of the substances in marijuana that proponents claim is an effective medication.

Opponents of both “medical” and recreational marijuana have serious concerns about questionable benefits and the adverse effects on the individual and the community.

Data is coming in from states that have legalized the plant and opponents cite disturbing trends linking marijuana use to increases in truancy, driving under the influence,

emergency room incidents, psychotic events (particularly in young adults) and even suicides. Marijuana today is far more potent than it was 20 years ago.

For doctors, legalization creates an ethical dilemma, one reason most are not supportive of legalizing marijuana. Physicians would be pressured to recommend something “blindly,” meaning proper prescribing guidelines such as dosing, drug interactions and adverse effects have not been established. There is also the risk of not knowing the contaminants and potency since chemical concentrations vary. Furthermore, to prescribe any controlled substances, physicians must be registered by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and, according to the DEA, “medical marijuana” is illegal.

Medical professionals agree that many medications are plant-based but note they have been extracted, refined, tested and properly dosed. “If a patient has a bacterial infection a physician prescribes penicillin. She does not tell the patient to go eat a loaf of moldy bread,” said Joyce Ostrander, policy analyst for The Family Foundation and a licensed health professional. “Likewise, to treat malaria doctors prescribe one of several medications containing quinine. They don’t tell patients to chew on the bark of the cinchona tree.”

Of great concern is the impact on the 18 to 25-year-old population and those who may be vulnerable to mental health and respiratory issues. Research indicates that their use of marijuana dramatically increases the onset of serious mental health disease (i.e., schizophrenia and bipolar disorder) and/or the incidence of psychotic episodes and depression. Consistently, professional articles warn of danger, question the effectiveness and call for more research.

“There are likely additional medications that can be developed,” said Ostrander, “We just want them to go through the same process as every other medication to ensure people are helped, not harmed.” House Concurrent Resolution 5 directs the federal government to expedite that process.

The cannabis plant (marijuana) MAY contain good medicinal chemicals within it, but those chemicals must be researched and evaluated so they can be used safely and responsibly.

Call 1-800-372-7181

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave this message for “all the legislators from my county (State Senators and Representatives) and copy this message to Senate President Stivers and House Speaker Osborne.”

“Please pass House Concurrent Resolution 5. It requires expedited FDA research and safe guidelines before any legalization.”

Recreational marijuana???

“Recreational marijuana” means the legalization of the plant to use for any reason, with few restrictions (i.e., use by minors or driving under the influence).

Recreational marijuana supporters claim that taxes on marijuana would be a good source of revenue for the government. They argue that Kentucky has missed the opportunity to glean significant revenue from casinos and so should act now and legalize recreational marijuana while there is still a window of opportunity for it to yield big profits. However, according to an October 2018 *New York Times* article, regulations drive the cost up, resulting in both businesses and consumers preferring to buy illegally. Using California as an example, the cost to consumers for “legal” pot is up to 77 percent higher than what is on the black market.

Supporters say recreational marijuana is no worse than alcohol.

Opponents point out the serious dangers (*see article above*) and claim that greedy large business profiteers are actually behind the recent push in the Kentucky legislature and those profiteers are ignoring the devastating health, social and economic impacts of legalizing marijuana. In a November 2018 article, *Forbes* magazine estimated that Michigan’s recreational legalization (in December 2018) would bring 1.4 to 1.7 billion dollars in annual sales in Michigan alone.

Legislators need your encouragement. Make YOUR toll-free call (one call on each)



The Adoption/Foster Care Protection Act - *House Bill 160*

By Rep. J. Petrie. HB 160 ensures that faith-based providers of adoption and foster services can continue to provide services based on their core beliefs. It prevents state government from penalizing or punishing adoption and foster care providers because of their beliefs about marriage.

Advocates say: Many people who provide adoption and foster services are motivated by faith. That same faith dictates their beliefs about marriage and family. These organizations provide faith-based support for families of similar faith who wish to place children or who wish to adopt or foster. Without HB160, such organizations will eventually be forced by the state to choose between honoring God or closing their doors. Then taxpayers would pick up the cost and children would suffer.

Opponents say: This is a license to discriminate. *Obergefell* has affirmed the right of every person to marry who they choose. Two dads or two moms make just as good a family as any other family. It is time to end hate and discrimination. These discriminatory organizations should closed.



The Parents' Bill of Rights - *To be introduced in the Senate by Sen. West*

This bill affirms parental rights as fundamental rights which includes the right of the parent to direct and consent to the medical care, education, upbringing and religious training of their children. It requires the state to have a compelling interest before it restricts parental rights.

Advocates say: It is the parents' right and responsibility to direct the care of their children. Historically parents' rights have been considered fundamental rights. But, in 2000 a US Supreme Court opinion opened the door for reinterpretation. Since then there has been a disturbing trend of government allowing others to make decisions for children without parental consent or even knowledge. Children have been removed from homes without due process because a government official questioned a decision parents made for their child.

Opponents say: This law isn't needed. The United Nations says that parents already have rights and children must also. Children, in consultation with professionals should be able to make their own decisions. If the parents do not agree, a child should be given other guardians and allowed to determine for themselves what path they wish to take whether it be education, religion, medicine or any other area. Children's rights to determine for themselves should be respected and overrule the rights of parents.



Higher Education Free Speech Act - *To be introduced in the Senate by Sen. Schroder*

This bill requires state colleges and universities to adopt policies to protect the right of students and faculty to speak, write and learn without the threat of intimidation. It would also protect their right to invite speakers regardless of the popularity of their views.

Advocates say: This legislation is needed because of the increasing amount of intimidation practiced by those who disagree with religious or conservative points of view. In light of the many recent events on college campuses across America where invited speakers with conservative views have been prevented from speaking, sometimes by university administrators, it's time to protect the true academic environment, so all points of view can be shared peacefully.

Opponents say: News reports overstate the problem of intimidation on college campuses. These situations are just more liberal students exercising their free speech rights. In addition, they say that there are some views that constitute hate speech. These views, they argue, should be prohibited, particularly those they regard as racist, sexist and homophobic.

Call 1-800-372-7181

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave these messages (in red below). It is very easy. You will not have to speak to your legislator(s) – simply leave a message with the receptionist for “all the legislators in (my) county.”

Double your impact by having your spouse call as well. *Call on each bill* on different days. (One call for the group of prolife bills) When finished giving your message, ask the receptionist to “Copy my message to Senate President Stivers and House Speaker Osborne.” This will make your message reach Leadership.

You must leave *YOUR* message for legislators. Note: In fairness, each of these bill messages is written as though you favor the bill. If you *DON'T* want a bill passed, simply add the word “Don't” before the written message below.

#1 *“Pass The Adoption/Foster Care Protection Act – House Bill 160”*

This bill will protect groups that do adoptions and foster care so they can maintain their own deeply-held convictions about marriage.

#2 *“Pass The Parents' Bill of Rights Act – To be offered by Sen. West”*

(Include “Sen. West” portion) This bill will protect the family by having government stand in support rather than against parents in tough situations.

#3 *“Pass Higher Education Free Speech Act – To be offered by Sen. Schroder”*

(Include “Sen. Schroder” portion) This bill guarantees campuses will maintain First Amendment rights for all, contrary to many colleges today.

#4 *“Pass these Pro-Life Bills: Senate Bills 9 & 50 and House Bills 5 & 148”*

Kentucky should be a leading state on the issue of the sanctity of life. These bills accomplish that objective.

Before Feb. 5, the Legislative Message Line is open from 7:00 am until 6:00 pm EST Mon-Fri. Beginning Feb. 5, you can call in the evening! It will be open 7:00 am until 9:00 pm EST Mon-Thurs, closing at 6:00 pm Fri.

Pro-Life/Sanctity of Life Bills - *Senate Bills 9 & 50 and House Bills 5 & 148*



Senate Bill 9 – Fetal Heart Beat Abortion Ban by Sen. M. Castlen. SB 9 (& HB 100 by Rep. R. Goforth) prohibits an abortion after the detection of a heartbeat, except for medical emergencies.

Advocates Say: The presence of a heartbeat indicates life. Furthermore, the unborn child has distinctly different DNA than its mother. Therefore, once a heartbeat is detected it is not just about a woman's body, but abortion is the killing of an innocent individual person. The state has a compelling interest in protecting life.

Opponents Say: This law is unconstitutional. It is none of government's business what a woman does with her own body. It should be up to the woman and her doctor to decide. Life begins once the baby is born.

Senate Bill 50 – Abortion Prescription Reporting by Sen. R. Mills. SB 50 clarifies in law that medications given by a physician with the intent of causing an abortion must be reported as an abortion and included in the statistical reporting done by the Kentucky Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Advocates Say: Chemical abortions are becoming more common and current law is unclear. Such abortions are a combination of potent medications that cause the death and expulsion of an unborn child and should be reported.

Opponents Say: This law is unnecessary because most abortions are already reported. This is another attempt to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. This is an undue burden on women and their physicians.

House Bill 5 – Human Rights Unborn Children Anti-Discrimination Act by Rep. M. Prunty. HB 5 prohibits abortion based solely on the sex, race or disability of the unborn child.

Advocates say: We must resist efforts to create “designer babies” where children who do not meet certain “requirements” are discarded. A preborn child should not be killed simply because of their sex, race or perceived disability.

Opponents say: It is a woman's right to choose if she wants a child, which child, and under what circumstances. Government must not limit her choices. This is just another attempt to take away their reproductive freedom.

House Bill 148 – Post *Roe v. Wade* Abortion Ban by Rep. J. Fischer. Should either *Roe v. Wade* be overturned or an amendment to the Constitution restores Kentucky's authority to prohibit abortion, this bill would prohibit abortion except for the life or physical health of the mother.

Advocates say: Innocent, helpless unborn children should not be denied the basic human right to life. Innocent life is precious and must be protected. Abortions are being used as birth control and even “celebrated” by their advocates. A society that condones the killing of its most helpless and innocent members is a society in decline.

Opponents say: If abortion is not legal, women will die. They will be forced into back alleys again. This is nothing more than a patriarchal, regressive plot to subjugate women. It is a woman's right, alone, to choose.

YOU can have an impact for the Lord!

Your call to the Legislative Message Line should take about one minute. Make one call for each bill. (Just one for the group of pro-life bills.) *It takes less time and is easier than ordering a pizza!* You're only leaving a message for your legislators with a receptionist – don't be afraid, you don't have to be a debater, just a message giver. Here are a few tips making it easy:

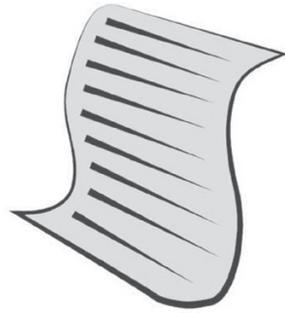
Be Kind - You can be firm, but be polite. Your legislator wants to hear from you (he wants your vote next time), so do not give him a reason to ignore your message by having a bad attitude.

Be Direct - You do not have to have the bill number, particularly now in the early stages of the Session when bill numbers have not all been assigned. Just state clearly what you want done. For example, your legislator will know what you want when he gets your message saying, “*Pass the Parents' Bill of Right Act to be offered by Sen. West.*”

Be Full of Faith - You are speaking, to the best of your ability, the concerns that the Lord would have, so be confident, even bold with your encouragement. Remember, you are “giving heart” to someone who is under the gun in Frankfort.

Do Not Be “Religious” - Christian-speak and Bible-speak are not known languages in Frankfort. Speak your message in the language of the listener – the truth that you share will have its own impact if it is understood. The Spirit will amplify it.

How A Bill Becomes Law



A law begins its journey toward enactment when it is introduced as a bill. It can be introduced in either the House of Representatives or the Senate, but it must be approved by both in order to be sent to the Governor for his signature, at which point it becomes law.

Once a bill is introduced in one of the chambers (either the House or the Senate), the Committee on Committees (both the House and the Senate have one) decide to which committee the bill will be sent. This is an important decision, because it is harder to get a bill through some committees than others.

The Speaker of the House is the chairman of the House Committee on Committees, and the Senate President is the chairman of the Senate Committee on Committees.

When the bill has been received by a committee, the chairman of that committee decides whether the bill should be heard by the committee. If the chairman decides that the bill should not be heard, it simply dies. If it is heard, it is either approved or defeated. If it is approved, it goes to the Rules Committee.

The Rules Committee of each chamber is also a powerful committee. The Rules Committee decides when and whether a bill gets to the chamber floor for a vote. It can either send the bill directly to the floor or back to another committee for further review.

When a bill finally reaches the floor, before it can be voted on, it must be read (announced) three times. The Speaker of the House or the President of the Senate can refuse to call the bill for a vote, in which case it will eventually die. If the bill is voted on and passed, it goes on to the other chamber and starts the same entire process for approval there.

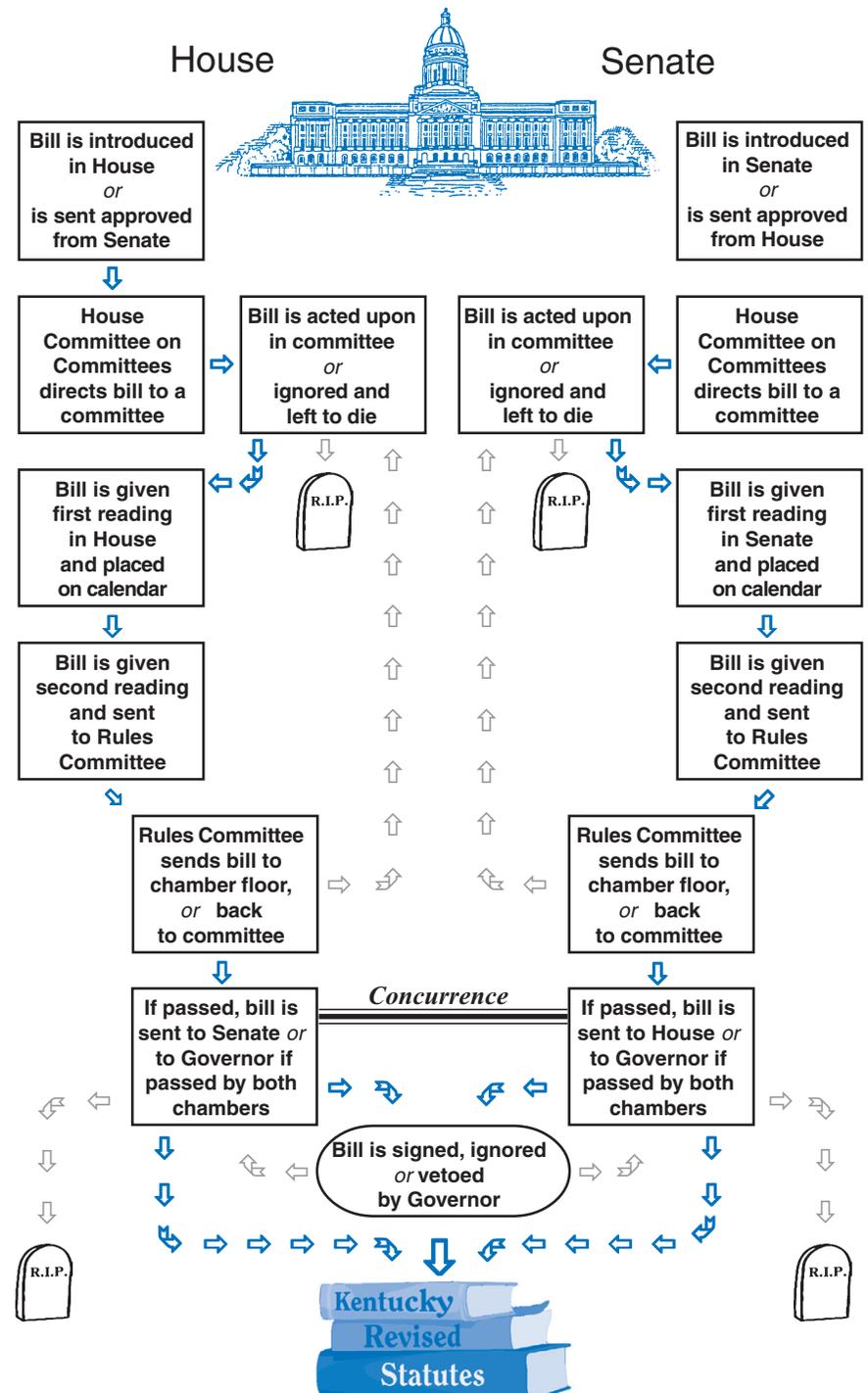
If one chamber passes a bill and the other chamber changes it in any way, the bill must go back to the chamber in which it originated to approve the change. This is called "concurrency."

Once it passes in both chambers, it goes to the Governor for his signature.

When the Governor receives the bill on his desk, he can do one of three things: he can sign it, veto it, or simply not act on it. If he signs it, it becomes law. If he does not sign it, it still becomes law. Not signing a bill, but letting it go into effect is a way for the Governor to express disapproval without actually stopping the bill.

If the Governor vetoes the bill, the bill can only become law if the General Assembly overrides the veto. A veto can be overridden only by a constitutional majority of both chambers. In the House, a constitutional majority is 51 votes (one more than half of 100). In the Senate, it is 20 votes (one more than half of 38). If the veto is overridden in this way, the bill becomes law. If it is not overridden, it does not become law.

The Road to Passing a Bill



Calendar

for the 2019 General Assembly

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| January 8-11 | Session Begins (organizational week) |
| February 5 | Session Reconvenes (after 3-week break) |
| February 15 | Last day for new Senate bills |
| February 18 | President's Day (holiday) |
| February 19 | Last day for new House bills |
| March 12 & 13 | Concurrency |
| March 14-25 | Governor's veto period (10 days) |
| March 28-29 | Veto override period and Sine Die |

They believe “It’s time for us to do something . . .”

The plight of “looking after widows and orphans in their distress” caused this couple to step out . . . and now, step into Kentucky.

When contemporary Christian singer Matthew West wrote “Do Something,” he probably didn’t envision Special Assistants for Adoption/Foster Care to the Governor of Kentucky being hired. But indeed they have.

Chris and Alicia Johnson left a successful church to plant a small Baptist church in Clermont, Florida. Foster care was not on their radar. During a sermon series on the *Book of*

James, Chris preached on the instruction to “look after widows and orphans in their distress.” He sensed God asking “Are you going to preach about this or live this?”

That conviction, coupled with West’s lyrics “If not us then who . . . it’s time for us to do something”, clarified for Chris that it was a call from God.

That conviction, coupled with West’s lyrics “If not us then who . . . it’s time for us to do something”, clarified for Chris that it was a call from God.

The Johnsons began by supporting adoptive and fostering families in their own congregation and developing relationships with foster care agencies. Then the day came when the agency asked the Johnsons to be foster parents.

Over a decade has passed since the Johnsons sensed that call. Chris and Alicia, along with their church, have developed a robust

relationship with the Florida child welfare system and have fostered over 40 children and adopted seven. Adding their three biological children, they now call themselves “The Johnson Dozen.” Candidly, the Johnsons explain this did not happen “overnight” or without difficulty. They recognize that not everyone in the church is called to be an adoptive



Chris and Alicia Johnson: Making a difference for adoption through the Governor’s “Faith and Community Initiatives.”

or foster parent, but believe there is *something* that every person and every church can do to “look after widows and orphans in their distress.”

It is that fresh, creative and robust model of personal responsibility and cooperation between the faith community and government that resulted in Gov. Bevin inviting the Johnsons to come to Kentucky to share their vision.

To help, reach the Johnsons by calling the Governor’s Office: 502-564-2611

Stay informed as bills move

“Like” and “Follow” us on Facebook:

The Family Foundation



Go to our website:

kentuckyfamily.org

Follow us on Twitter:

@KentuckyFamily



Sign up for our email Legislative UPDATES by emailing to:

kent@kentuckyfamily.org



The Kentucky Marriage Movement

Lexington, Jan. 28 & Feb. 4

Love & Lordship Series for Men - Greg Williams

Lexington Leadership Foundation

422 Codell Drive, Lexington, KY 40509

Louisville, Feb. 2

Sisters for Life “Marriage for Life” - Greg Williams

Lake Forest Lodge

511 Woodlake Drive, Louisville, KY 40245

Carrollton, March 1-2

Love & Lordship Retreat - Greg Williams

General Butler State Park

1608 KY-227, Carrollton, KY 41008

Louisville, March 8-9

Art of Marriage Conference - Family Life

Shively Baptist Church (location TBD)

1599 Sadie Lane, Louisville, KY 40216

For more information, call (859)255-5400 or go to www.kentuckymarriage.org

Please help!



Let's stand together as one!

Can you be “contagious”? Can you (and your church) stir others to stand and to act? If so, together we will see mountains move.

It is said that “A ship in the harbor is safe . . . but that’s *NOT* what ships were made for.” (Sitting in the harbor). Similarly, “A Christian in the pew is safe . . . but that’s not what we were made for!” Yes, get filled each week in the pew, but then get out there and share what you know!

Certainly, we all know that we should share the gospel. But shouldn’t we also share the things that God has shown us to be true? Things like the sanctity of human life, the

Please volunteer and help us get the word out across your county on pieces of legislation that are currently before the Assembly.

role of parents in a child’s life, the truth about human sexuality and God’s design for marriage.

All of these are coming under attack by those who don’t know God, yet have their own *other* ideas -- man’s ideas -- and they

are pushing them unrelentingly. (Oftentimes, with more fervor than Christians share God’s truths.)

Sure, it’s hard to become an issues expert or a policy analyst in the midst of an everyday busy life. That’s why The Family Foundation has printed this publication. (And is working on another that is designed to be *handed out* in church congregations in the next few weeks).

Please volunteer and help us get the word out across your county on the pieces of legislation that are currently before the General Assembly.

One person can serve their entire county by simply dropping off the materials that we provide to the various Godly/Biblical congregations. (These materials will look similar to this publication in content and style.)

Hopefully, Godly people will share Godly perspective and government will be guided by their counsel.

The Kentucky *CITIZEN*

Executive Editor *Kent Ostrander*

Contributing Editors

Martin Cothran *David Moreland*
Joyce Ostrander *Cole Cuzick*
Michael Johnson *Greg Williams*

The Kentucky Citizen is published by The Family Foundation, a Kentucky nonprofit educational organization that works in the public policy arena on behalf of the family and the values that make families strong.

The Family Foundation

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Note that this publication *IS NOT* “political.” It does not favor one Party over the other; it simply lays out key bills that will affect families and family life and asks individuals to share their perspective. Hopefully, Godly people will share Godly perspective and government will be guided by their counsel.

Here’s some good news: During the first week of the Session, I was standing outside the Governor’s office and one of his office staff told

me, “I can always tell when your newsletter goes out because calls start coming in.” And, he went on to say that the people are direct and polite. *THAT* is Godly encouragement!

Thank you for *ALL* that you have done . . . yet, *please* do more. If you’ve already called, please call again. And *PLEASE* volunteer (perhaps with some friends) for distribution later this month. We, together, can make a difference!



Kent Ostrander is the executive director of The Family Foundation

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kent".

Help us raise more voices! Please volunteer [ASAP] for later this month and make your calls on bills: (See pages 2-5)

To share our publications with the churches in your county (about 2 to 3 hours), email me as soon as possible.

kent@kentuckyfamily.org (or call 859-255-5400)