

CITIZEN

STANDING FOR FAMILIES & THE BIBLICAL VALUES THAT STRENGTHEN THEM

Vol. XXXI No. 1

January/February 2022

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE EDITION:

Help advance God-honoring public policy NOW.

2022 Session provides a huge opportunity to advance Faith, Family & Freedom — Join us in making an impact in Kentucky!

Kentucky's 2022 Legislative Session got underway in Frankfort on January 4th and our team at The Family Foundation has already hit the ground running. I am very optimistic that the 2022 General Assembly can see Kentucky families strengthened, preborn life protected, parental rights recognized, and religious freedom defended.

There is no doubt we are in a pivotal time to be serving the Lord in the public policy arena. I pray you will join with us this session, maybe like never before, as we seek to amplify the voices of pro-family Kentuckians and help equip HIS church to be the courageous advocates that we are all called to be.

I praise God that Kentucky has continued to be a leader among the states in protecting preborn life. We have the opportunity to do even more this session . . . and with Kentucky's "Yes for Life"

Amendment on the ballot in November and the U.S. Supreme Court poised to potentially overturn *Roe*, 2022 could be the year that we end legalized abortion in Kentucky!

BUT . . . Kentucky MUST take on a similar leadership role in defending our religious freedoms, parental rights, and protecting against the ever-expanding LGBTQ+ agenda that threatens our most fundamental freedoms. In fact, the very definition of what it means to be created in the image of God as male or female is under direct assault.

Kentucky can lead with legislation like the



"Save Women's Sports Act," which protects girls from unfairly being forced to compete against men who "identify" as women, and the "Help Not Harm Act," protecting children from transgender medical experiments that can leave kids mutilated. And Kentucky can lead by putting parents back in the driver's seat of their kids' education!

Government belongs to those who show up. We can all "show up" by phone, email, or in-person to encourage our legislators to take action. It is an honor to stand alongside you as we educate and advocate for biblical values and God-honoring public policy in our beloved Commonwealth!



IN THIS ISSUE: Priority Pro-Family Bills & Invite to Upcoming Rally

The Family Foundation
P. O. Box 911111
Lexington, KY 40591-1111

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
Paid
Lexington, KY
Permit No. 555

JOIN US IN MAKING AN IMPACT

1. Contact your Kentucky Senator and Representative on each priority pro-family bill: three times by phone and three times by email on our new online action center.

(see page 4-5 for priority pro-family bills)

2. Attend our Faith, Family & Freedom Rally and Advocacy Day at the Kentucky Capitol on Tuesday, February 15th. *(see back page for more details on the Rally)*

Letting biological boys play in girls' sports is decidedly unfair - Let's Save Women's Sports!

Male athletes consistently perform 10% to 50% better than female athletes... Girls shouldn't be sidelined in their own sports.

Kentucky's legislators have an opportunity to join at least nine other states in saving women's sports — ensuring fairness and protecting the equal opportunity gains of Title IX that women worked so hard to obtain.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Title IX and its hallmark achievement of women's sports, yet those gains are under attack as biological males are rewriting the record books and forcing girls out of their own sports.

It may be commonsense that hormone levels alone don't make someone a woman and no amount of cross-sex hormones can undo the biological benefits that male genetics and development provide in sports, but that hasn't stopped the NCAA and others from allowing biological males to compete against females.

When boys compete in girls' sports, the competition can be over before it begins. That's why Kentucky must pass the Save Women's Sports Act.

The first law of its kind was passed in Idaho, where a former NCAA basketball player and Division I coach brought the bill forward — she knew from experience that female athletes deserve fair competition, and compete in their own divisions for a reason.

Two national polls conducted in 2020 confirm that over 60 percent oppose biological males competing in girls' sports... and that view is held by a majority of Republican, Democrat, and Independent voters.

Passing the Save Women's Sports Act is the right thing to do and it's what Kentuckians want.

HB 23 & SB 83 TALKING POINTS

- 1. Letting biological boys compete in girls' sports is decidedly unfair.**
 - Males have numerous physiological advantages that make it hard or impossible for even the top female athletes to compete against.
- 2. Allowing males in female sports is a slap in the face to the very purpose of Title IX, equal opportunity for women.**
- 3. The law is widely supported and commonsense.**
 - Recent polling revealed that majorities of Republicans, Democrats, and Independents agree that female athletes should NOT be forced to compete against biological men.

In a time of emergency powers, the government needs to be reminded the Church /S essential.

Rep. Shane Baker's Church is Essential Act (HB 43) makes clear that government can't discriminate against churches.

For believers, gathering with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to collectively worship our Lord is not optional, but rather commanded in Scripture (Hebrews 10:25).

Thankfully, here in America, this charge to worship collectively with fellow believers is not at odds with the law of our land. In fact, this Biblical command is upheld and protected by our right to the free exercise of religion in the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment.

Unfortunately, in an attempt to slow down the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, Gov. Andy Beshear and other government officials decided to overstep their authority and demand that churches close for an indefinite time.

Gov. Beshear threatened Kentuckians' First Amendment rights and our obligation to gather with Christ's Body (the church) when he made it a crime



to attend church on Easter Sunday 2020. Praise God, in May 2020, a federal judge rebuked Beshear's major overreach for unlawfully targeting religious worship and violating the Constitution.

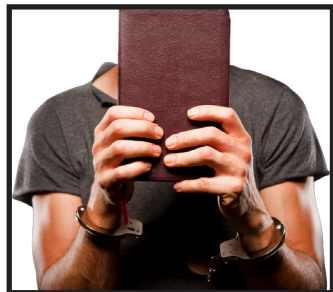
Kentucky Representative Shane Baker (R) has introduced the "Church is Essential Act" (House Bill 43) to ensure our First Amendment rights and, more importantly, our Biblical command to worship with fellow believers is protected.

HB 43 — TALKING POINTS

- 1. The use of emergency powers does not suspend the U.S. or Kentucky Constitutions.**
- 2. Government should not discriminate against religious organizations, simply because they are religious.**

Efforts to ban so-called “conversion therapy” attack the very essence of the Gospel.

Targeting mental health professionals is just “the first bite” . . . LGBTQ+ activists also seek to discredit & silence pastors.



This is the Gospel message, that although each person is born in sin, through Christ one can be freed from sin and liberated to live a life pleasing to God. Unfortunately, the Gospel and our religious freedom are under direct attack with the effort by some to ban so-called “conversion therapy.”

Scripture teaches that humanity is plagued by a universal, serious, and deadly disease—that is, a sin nature. This disease is not only what causes physical death (Romans 5:12), but it also causes an eternal spiritual death separated from God (Romans 6:23). Because we are all in Adam, we all have inherited the disease since his rebellion in the Garden (Genesis 3).

The only way one can be made right with God is to be forgiven of one’s sin through the precious, powerful, and cleansing blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ. Believers are called to a new way of life (2 Corinthians 5:17). This new life is one of forsaking sin and living a holy life that aligns with God’s Word.

Rep. Lisa Willner (D) filed House Bill 12, which will “prohibit mental health professionals from engaging in sexual orientation and gender identity change efforts with a person under 18 years of age.”

In other words, all licensed mental health care professionals will be muzzled and not allowed to provide biblical counseling to help a child struggling with

sexual orientation or gender identity confusion.

The deeper theological issue pertaining to banning conversion therapy is that it is a direct attack on the heart of the Christian faith. The Gospel teaches one must forsake their sin, and not continue living in it (1 John 3:9). That’s why LGBTQ+ activists won’t be content with only targeting Christian therapists.

Responding to frustration that this bill doesn’t go far enough, Rep. Kim Banta (R), co-sponsor, told NBC News it is “the first bite” and said the next bite could be to make others include a disclaimer that it isn’t approved.

Whether aware of it or not, those who advocate for conversion therapy bans are attacking the very essence of the Gospel — change is possible.

HB 12 — TALKING POINTS

1. **HB 12 bans the Gospel & purges Christian therapists.**
2. **LGBTQ+ activists understand this to be a first step towards discrediting and silencing pastors & others.**

After “legalizing” slot machines, gambling advocates push further expansion with sports.

The never-satisfied gambling industry and its advocates in the Kentucky General Assembly continue to push sports betting.

Rep. Koenig and Sen. Thayer have made it publicly known that they want to enact sports betting in Kentucky, and Koenig said he will introduce a bill to do so this Session.

Koenig, who has sponsored multiple bills to legalize sports betting and helped lead the charge on the “legalization” of the historical horse racing slot gaming, admits that “voting ‘no’ on anything gambling is a safe vote, especially if you’re Republican and have to face a Republican primary.”

Kentucky’s legislators need to understand that the voters they represent want them to enact God-honoring public policy based on biblical principles so that their communities and families benefit. The voters do not want legislators to prioritize the fat wallets of the gambling industry over them.

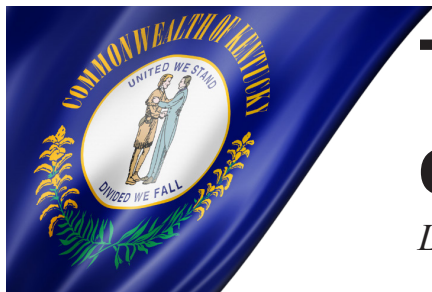
Legislators must understand that gambling targets the family, businesses lose, the government is corrupted, and the vulnerable are destroyed. The cost is too high... even if it resulted in a few deposits to the General Fund.

In the background of this year’s renewed push to legalize sports betting, is last year’s bloody battle “legalizing” historical horse racing slot gaming with an unconstitutional bill. But gambling advocates aren’t satisfied and will keep demanding for more.

The only way to stop it, is for YOU (the voter) to make your voice heard.

TALKING POINTS

1. **The Family is targeted**
Gambling doesn’t create new wealth, it only shifts money from the hands of the family and into the hands of the gambling industry.
2. **Athletes become pawns and targets**
Athletes in Kentucky have already received death threats by gamblers who lost money.
3. **Government will be corrupted**
Our 10+ year court case and the General Assembly’s claim to redefine “pari-mutuel” evidences this truth.
4. **The Vulnerable will be destroyed**
Financial loss is the beginning of a tragedy for the most vulnerable.



These priority pro-family bills seek to enact God-honoring policy!

Let's ensure our families thrive — religious freedom, life, and parents' rights matter.

SAVE WOMEN'S SPORTS ACT

HB 23 (REP. DOTSON) AND SB 83 (SEN. MILLS)

SUMMARY: HB 23 & SB 83 prohibit males from competing on female teams, and protect females and schools from retaliation for following the law.

- Ensures fairness in girls' sports by prohibiting males from competing on female teams, and protects females and schools from retaliation for following the law.
- Letting biological boys play in girls' sports is decidedly unfair.
- Enacted in 9 states since 2020 (most recently in Texas last year).

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 emails

HELP NOT HARM ACT

HB 253 (REP. MADDOX) AND SB 84 (SEN. MILLS)

SUMMARY: HB 253 and SB 84 protect the dignity and health of children who are questioning their gender identity by ensuring they are helped, rather than harmed.

- Bans puberty blockers, cross sex hormones, and sex reassignment surgery on minors; prohibits gov't funding for such procedures.
- Transgender interventions for kids violate Hippocratic Oath: Do No Harm
- Arkansas (SAFE Act) was first state to enact the law in 2021, Tennessee also passed protections.

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 emails

HUMANITY IN HEALTHCARE ACT

HOUSE BILL NUMBER FORTHCOMING (REP. TATE)

SUMMARY: The Humanity in Healthcare Act is a pro-life omnibus bill containing many pro-life provisions, including conscience protections for medical professionals.

- We must do everything we can to protect and promote respect for human life within the medical profession.
- Every medical professional should be able to operate in good conscience, upholding their oath to do no harm.

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 emails

CHURCH IS ESSENTIAL ACT

HB 43 (REP. BAKER)

SUMMARY: HB 43 provides crucial protections for the rights of religious organizations in times of emergency and otherwise.

- Declares religious services an essential service, and prohibits discrimination based on religious identity or conduct.
- Enacted in at least 4 states in 2021, constitutional amendment passed by 2/3rd of Texas voters in 2021.

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 emails

FREEDOM TO SERVE ACT- RELIGIOUS FREEDOM BILL NUMBER & SPONSOR FORTHCOMING

SUMMARY: Allows people of faith to serve their communities without government discrimination against their beliefs about marriage, gender, and life.

- Protects people of faith and the organizations, businesses, and ministries they operate from gov't discrimination based on their beliefs about marriage, gender, and life.
- 10 states have enacted protections specifically for adoption/foster-care providers.

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 emails

PARENTS' RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT

SB 40 (SEN. WEST)

SUMMARY: SB 40 ensures that fundamental parental rights are properly respected, while balancing the government's compelling interests such as preventing abuse.

- Defines rights of parents to make critical decisions for their child and balances those rights with the government's interest.
- Enacted in 10 states (most recently in Florida last year).

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 emails

YOU can make the difference on each bill!

It's as easy as 1-2-3 — Simply make three calls and send three emails on each of these important bills.

MAKE A CALL!

Legislative Message Line
1-800-372-7181

Simply call the number and leave a message with a receptionist. Here's a sample message:

“Please vote FOR House Bill 23 — the Save Women’s Sports Act and vote AGAINST House Bill 12 — the so-called Conversion Therapy Ban.”

SEND AN EMAIL!

Visit Our Action Center
kentuckyfamily.org/takeaction

Simply enter your address to directly email your Kentucky legislators. Here's a sample message:

“Please vote FOR Senate Bill 84 — the Help Not Harm Act and vote AGAINST any expansion of gambling, including sports betting.”

Bills threatening people of faith and promoting social harms – Together, we can stop them!

CONVERSION THERAPY BAN HB 12 (REP. WILLNER & REP. BANTA)

SUMMARY: HB 12 would ban the Gospel message that change is possible, purge Christian therapists, and is a first step towards silencing pastors and others.

☐☐☐

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

Mark off your 3 calls

SEXUAL ORIENTATION & GENDER IDENTITY (SOGI) HB 11 (REP. WILLNER) AND HB 15 (REP. MINTER)

SUMMARY: HB 11 & 15 amend state nondiscrimination laws in a way that's been used to persecute Christian business owners, in KY and throughout the nation.

☐☐☐

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

Mark off your 3 calls

EXPANDED GAMBLING BILL NUMBER FORTHCOMING

SUMMARY: Gambling advocates are at it again... trying to expand into sports betting.

☐☐☐

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

Mark off your 3 calls

MARIJUANA HB 136 (REP. NEMES)

SUMMARY: HB 136 legalizes “medical” marijuana, with recreational the next step.

☐☐☐

☐☐☐

Mark off your 3 calls

Mark off your 3 calls



We're working to amplify your voice in Frankfort

Our team is promoting biblically sound public policy that points people back to God's good design for the wellbeing of our neighbors.

Each team member of The Family Foundation is working hard during the 2022 General Assembly to create a Kentucky where God's blessings of life, family, and religious freedom are treasured, respected, and protected.

During this legislative session, our team is working hard to keep you informed, persuade legislators, and rally our fellow citizens to get engaged.

Together, we can promote and enact legislation consistent with Christian biblical values which, by honoring God, benefit and guide our civic life.

OUR CORE VALUES



Religious
Freedom



Family



Life



Human
Dignity



Human
Sexuality

The Family Foundation Team Serving Kentucky



David Walls



Kent Ostrander



Martin Cothran



Michael Johnson



Baxter Boyd



John Raizor



John Wehrle



Jamie Bloyd

. . .But we need YOU to call your legislators!

We can help prepare the legislator's heart and mind in Frankfort, but it's your call that makes the difference — Please call today!

LEGISLATIVE MESSAGE LINE: 1-800-372-7181

DON'T WAIT

- Good bills won't move unless you call.

BE FULL OF FAITH

- You aren't alone, you are standing with people of faith on Biblical principles.

BE KIND

- Be polite, don't give them a reason to ignore you.

BE DIRECT

- Let them know which bill(s) you're calling about and how you want them to vote.

ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO CALL

- Multiply your impact by sharing with your Bible study, community group, household, and others.

Supreme Court Blocks Biden Vaccine Mandate.

KY General Assembly now has opportunity to protect workers.

On January 13, the U.S. Supreme Court blocked the Biden Administration's unlawful national vaccine mandate.

Six justices on the Court made clear that "Although COVID-19 is a risk that occurs in many workplaces... That kind of universal risk is no different from the day-to-day dangers that all face from crime, air pollution, or any number of communicable diseases."

The justices ruled that the Biden Administration's use of OSHA to issue national vaccine mandate "addressing a threat that is untethered, in any causal sense, from the workplace" is without historical precedent and extends beyond the agency's legitimate reach.

The Family Foundation is proud to have joined with 30 family policy councils in challenging the Biden Administration's gross overreach and shocking disregard for our constitutional freedoms with a legal brief filed in the case.

The Court was right to reign in the unelected bureaucrats at OSHA and make clear that the Constitution matters—even in the midst of a pandemic. Now, state legislators have the freedom to ensure the Commonwealth's citizens are protected.

Kentucky's General Assembly is currently considering several bills responding to various efforts to mandate vaccination and punish those who refuse:

- HB 21 & HB 28 – Prohibit requiring vaccine passports to access government services, businesses, or schools.
- HB 52 – Prohibits employer vaccine mandates.
- HB 112 – Prohibits vaccination of a minor without parental consent.
- HB 198 – Requires that any employer vaccine mandate include religious, conscientious, medical, and proof of immunity exemptions.

Regardless of our personal stances on vaccines or opinions on these bills, surely we can all agree that violating medical informed consent and religious liberty; along with demonizing and treating the unvaccinated as second-class citizens is a MAJOR problem.

Michael

2022 LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

February 15 — Faith, Family & Freedom Rally

February 18 — Last Day for Bill Requests

February 28 — Last Day for New House Bills

March 2 — Last Day for New Senate Bills

March 29-30 — Concurrence

March 31-April 12 — Veto Period

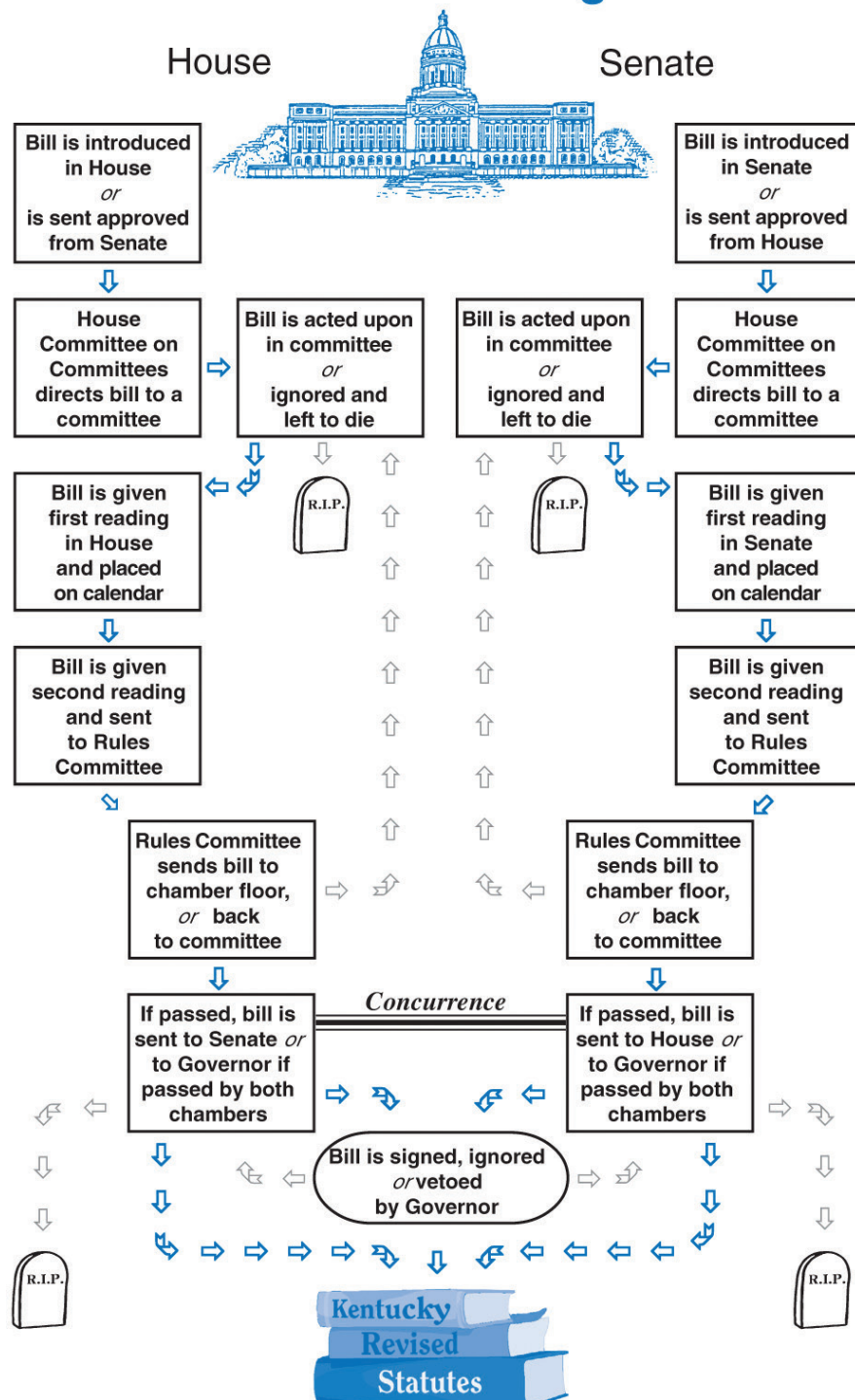
April 13-14 — Veto Override

April 14 — Sine Die (Last Day of Session)

GOOD BILLS WON'T MOVE UNLESS YOU CALL!

Legislative Message Line: 1-800-372-7181

The Road to Passing a Bill





FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM RALLY *and Advocacy Day*

TUESDAY | FEB. 15, 2022 | 11AM
KENTUCKY CAPITOL

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR FAITH, FAMILY & FREEDOM IN KENTUCKY!

With important religious freedom, marriage & family, parental rights, and pro-life issues being considered in the 2022 General Assembly, it's time to gather with like-minded Kentuckians from across the Commonwealth and make our voices heard!

11 AM

Rally

Outside the Capitol

9 AM

Issue Briefing & Advocacy Training

Capitol Annex Room 154

Limited Space Available, Registration Required

The
FAMILY
FOUNDATION



RSVP TODAY AT
KENTUCKYFAMILY.ORG

The *Kentucky Citizen*
is a publication of
The Family Foundation

*A Kentucky nonprofit organization that
stands for Kentucky families & the
biblical values that make them strong.*



Follow Our Page!



The Family Foundation
@TheFamilyFoundation · Nonprofit
Organization

The Family Foundation
kentuckyfamily.org

P.O. Box 911111

Lexington, KY 40591-1111

859-255-5400

info@kentuckyfamily.org

Executive Editors

David Walls

Kent Ostrander

Michael Johnson

Staff

Baxter Boyd

Martin Cothran

John Raizor

John Wehrle

**Do you want
extra copies?**

**Share this paper with your
church and community.**

Just let us know!

859-255-5400

info@kentuckyfamily.org