

CITIZEN

STANDING FOR FAMILIES & THE BIBLICAL VALUES THAT STRENGTHEN THEM

Vol. XXXVI No. 2

2nd Quarter 2025

2025 General Assembly sees big victories, but troubling incidents reveal the battle ahead.

Numerous pro-family priorities passed, but incidents targeting children show why we must continue to engage.

Our efforts in Frankfort during the 2025 General Assembly sought to encourage Kentucky's lawmakers to seize the momentum of the hour and push forward a strong pro-family, pro-faith, and pro-life agenda.

I am thankful to the Lord that several priority pro-family bills that The Family Foundation advocated for passed into law. Kentuckians should be grateful for the hard work of the General Assembly over this short session.

Here are three important victories to celebrate that your support helped achieve:

- **Win for biblical morality** with HJR 15 to restore a monument of the Ten Commandments to the grounds of the Kentucky Capitol!
- **Win for truth and commonsense** with two important laws (HB 495 & SB 2) protecting the cause of truth in the realm of gender and sexuality and pushing back against Gov. Beshear's executive overreach.
- **Win for protecting mothers and preborn children** with the passage of HB 90 adding important clarity to Kentucky's pro-life laws.



But even with the encouraging victories from this session, the important calling to promote policy honoring to the Lord continues. As Leftists mobilize against the conservative change taking place throughout the country, and as Gov. Beshear sprints even further to the left, we must not become complacent and think that final victory is fully within reach.

In fact, recent troubling incidents here in Kentucky are indicative of the worldview battle still raging all around us. At the end of the session, a man in a see-through dress claiming to be a woman entered the women's restroom at

the Capitol with young girls present. Thankfully he was confronted by Rep. Bill Wesley (*pictured*), but this incident underscores the chaos being promoted by LGBTQ revolutionaries.

WKU also recently held its annual Drag Show. This "show" took place on campus, which is funded by our tax dollars. In attendance at the drag show were people of all ages, which sadly included young children who should never be exposed to such perversion (*pictured*).

It was also recently discovered that Planned Parenthood had distributed explicit "coloring" books to elementary students at the Kentucky Science Center. Planned Parenthood regularly distributes graphic sex-ed "resources" to kids online, in school, and through social media.

These incidents serve as a reminder of the battle before us to protect the hearts and minds of the next generation. But Christians can take heart! As the culture continues to promote darkness, the responsibility falls upon us to be the salt and light that Jesus calls us to be. Please join with us!

And

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PRO-FAMILY BILLS THAT PASSED

Ten Commandments Restored to KY Capitol (HJR 15 Rep. Shane Baker)

HJR 15 restores a monument of the Ten Commandments to the grounds of the Kentucky Capitol. The monument was previously removed in the 1980s and was never restored due to bad Supreme Court precedent and an ACLU lawsuit. That precedent has now been removed (*Kennedy v. Bremerton*), and the monument will be returning for all to see. ***HJR 15 passed the House 79-13 and the Senate 32-6. The Resolution became law WITHOUT Gov. Beshear's signature.***

Overturning Gov. Beshear's Attack on Counseling (HB 495 by Rep. David Hale)

HB 495 nullified an executive order from Governor Beshear banning conversion therapy. This would have prevented a counselor or pastor from sharing the Biblical message of gender and sexuality during counseling. The bill also prohibits Medicaid funds from being used in treatments or procedures that claim to alter a person's gender. ***HB 495 passed the House 67-19 & Senate 28-6. Gov. Beshear vetoed the bill, and the General Assembly overrode that veto.***

Protecting Tax Dollars from Gender Transitions (SB 2 by Sen. Mike Wilson)

SB 2 prohibits inmates in state correctional facilities from receiving medication or surgical procedures that claim to change a person's gender. This comes after Gov. Beshear attempted to pay for such procedures for prisoners. ***SB 2 passed the Senate 31-6 and the House 73-12. SB 2 became law WITHOUT Gov. Beshear's signature.***

Banning DEI from Public Universities (HB 4 Rep. Jennifer Decker)

HB 4 bans and defunds discriminatory diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) policies at public universities. ***HB 4 passed the House 79-17 & Senate 32-6. Gov. Beshear vetoed the bill, and the General Assembly overrode that veto.***

Clarifying Kentucky's Pro-life Laws (HB 90 Rep. Jason Nemes)

HB 90 added needed clarifications to Kentucky's pro-life laws that further protect mothers and unborn children. The law provides clear guidance for instances that permit a woman to receive life-saving medical care. The bill also expands perinatal palliative care and legalizes freestanding birthing centers. ***HB 90 passed the House 74-17 and the Senate 29-5. Gov. Beshear vetoed the bill, and the General Assembly overrode that veto.***

Banning Cellphones from Classrooms (HB 208 Rep. Josh Bray)

HB 208 bans the use of cellphones in public school classrooms except for emergency circumstances or instructional purposes. It further bans access to social media websites on school wi-fi. ***The General Assembly passed HB 208 unanimously in both chambers, and the bill was signed into law by Gov. Beshear.***

Religious Release Time/Moment of Silence (SB 19 Sen. Rick Girdler)

SB 19 requires a moment of silence for personal prayer and reflection at the start of the school day. It also increases protections and ease-of-access for religious release instruction (including bible study) during school hours. ***SB 19 passed the Senate 26-10 and the House 72-19. Gov. Beshear vetoed the bill, and the General Assembly overrode that veto.***

Parental Monitoring of School Communications (SB 181 Sen. Lindsey Tichenor)

SB 181 requires that parents give written permission for their student to communicate electronically with a school employee. It further allows parents the ability to request records of that communication. ***The General Assembly passed SB 181 unanimously in both chambers, and the bill was signed into law by Gov. Beshear.***

HARMFUL BILLS DEFEATED

Casino Gambling Legalization (HB 33 Rep. Thomas Huff)

HB 33 would have legalized casino gambling in Kentucky and endangered the financial, emotional, and physical wellbeing of families due to gambling's addictive nature. Thankfully, the bill never received a hearing.

Republican-Led Abortion Exceptions Effort (HB 203 Rep. Ken Fleming, Rep. Vanessa Grossl, and Rep. Jim Gooch)

Every bill and/or attempt to weaken Kentucky's pro-life laws failed this session, including yet another Republican-led effort to introduce exceptions that devalue preborn Kentuckians based upon the circumstances of their conception or their health.

LGBTQ "SOGI" Laws (SB 102 Sen. Gerald Neal/HB 235 Rep. Mary Lou Marzian & SB 94 Sen. Karen Berg)

SB 102/HB 235 would have amended Kentucky's nondiscrimination law to include "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" as special classes. SB 94 would have codified Gov. Beshear's unlawful executive order restricting speech on gender and sexuality in counseling.

MAJOR MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

Conscience Rights for Medical Providers (SB 132 Sen. Donald Douglas)

SB 132 would have protected conscience rights within the medical profession, ensuring that no medical professional is forced to violate their oath to "do no harm." *SB 132 passed the Senate 26-6 and passed out of a House committee, but House Leadership did not allow a floor vote, effectively killing the bill.*

Religious Freedom Restoration Act Updates (SB 60 Sen. Steve Rawlings)

Important updates to Kentucky's Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) to ensure that RFRA continues to adequately protect the religious liberty rights of every Kentuckian. *SB 60 passed the Senate by a vote of 29-7 and was assigned to a committee in the House, but House Leadership did not allow a committee hearing, effectively killing the bill.*

Baby Olivia Act (HB 397 by Rep. Nancy Tate)

HB 397 would ensure schools teach important facts about human development by adding a video to health curriculum that shows the beautiful process of human development in the womb. *HB 397 was assigned to a House committee but, despite having 29 cosponsors, was never given a hearing, effectively killing the bill.*

Exempt Churches from Sales & Use Tax (HB 37 by Rep. James Tipton)

HB 37 would exempt Churches from registering with the state to collect sales & use taxes, which burdens their ministries. *Despite having 45 cosponsors, HB 37 was never given a committee hearing in the House, effectively killing the bill.*

Women's Bill of Rights (SB 116 Sen. Lindsey Tichenor)

SB 116 would protect citizens by clearly defining male and female in state law and restricting use of protected spaces to one's biological sex. *SB 116 was referred to the Senate Education Committee but never given a hearing, effectively killing the bill.*

Stopping DEI in K-12 Schools (SB 165 Sen. Lindsey Tichenor)

Passage of SB 165 would ban & defund discriminatory DEI policies at public K-12 schools. *SB 165 was referred to the Senate Education Committee but never given a hearing, effectively killing the bill.*



KENTUCKY FAMILY LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD 2025

This legislative scorecard is an educational project of

The FAMILY FOUNDATION of Kentucky

VIEW THE FULL SCORECARD AT KENTUCKYFAMILY.ORG/SCORECARD

The Kentucky Family Legislative Scorecard is an educational project of The Family Foundation of Kentucky (TFFKY) and is the most comprehensive pro-family legislative scorecard in the Commonwealth! The scorecard is based on Kentucky’s 2025 Legislative Session and evaluates how state legislators performed on our core issues. The scorecard compiles important legislative activity, including votes and bill sponsorships.

The scorecard is designed to be a helpful educational and accountability resource for Kentuckians to see where legislators stood on the values that matter to them. Included below are the summary scores for each legislator. To view and download the full scorecard and see how your legislators voted, please visit kentuckyfamily.org/scorecard.

KENTUCKY STATE SENATE											
NAME	DIST	PARTY	SCORE	NAME	DIST	PARTY	SCORE	NAME	DIST	PARTY	SCORE
<i>Family Champions</i>											
SHELLEY FUNKE	24	R	100%	MATTHEW DENEEN	10	R	96%	CHRISTIAN MCDANIEL	23	R	86%
FROMMEYER				GREG ELKINS	28	R	96%	ROBIN L. WEBB	18	D	75%
RICK GIRDLER	15	R	100%	DAVID P. GIVENS	9	R	96%	CASSIE CHAMBERS ARMSTRONG	19	D	26%
AMANDA MAYS BLEDSOE	12	R	100%	BRANDON SMITH	30	R	96%	REGINALD THOMAS	13	D	24%
ROBBY MILLS	4	R	100%	STEPHEN WEST	27	R	96%	DAVID YATES	37	D	24%
MATT NUNN	17	R	100%	MAX WISE	16	R	96%	GERALD A. NEAL	33	D	21%
STEVE RAWLINGS	11	R	100%	GARY BOSWELL	8	R	95%	KETURAH HERRON	35	D	20%
AARON REED	7	R	100%	PHILLIP WHEELER	31	R	95%	KAREN BERG	26	D	19%
LINDSEY TICHENOR	6	R	100%	<i>Family Advocates</i>							
GEX WILLIAMS	20	R	100%	JIMMY HIGDON	14	R	91%				
MIKE WILSON	32	R	100%	MICHAEL J. NEMES	38	R	91%				
SCOTT MADON	29	R	99%	ROBERT STIVERS	25	R	91%				
DONALD DOUGLAS	22	R	99%	BRANDON J. STORM	21	R	91%				
STEPHEN MEREDITH	5	R	98%	JULIE RAQUE ADAMS	36	R	87%				
CRAIG RICHARDSON	3	R	97%	DANNY CARROLL	2	R	86%				
JARED CARPENTER	34	R	96%	JASON HOWELL	1	R	86%				

*** KY Senate Republican Leadership***

Senate President — Robert Stivers (Dist. 25)
Senate President Pro Tempore — David Givens (Dist. 9)
Majority Floor Leader — Max Wise (Dist. 16)
Majority Caucus Chair — Robby Mills (Dist. 4)
Majority Whip — Mike Wilson (Dist. 32)

*** KY Senate Democrat Leadership***

Minority Floor Leader — Gerald Neal (Dist. 33)
Minority Caucus Chair — Reginald Thomas (Dist. 13)
Minority Whip — David Yates (Dist. 37)

KENTUCKY STATE HOUSE

NAME	DIST	PARTY	SCORE	NAME	DIST	PARTY	SCORE	NAME	DIST	PARTY	SCORE
Family Champions				PEYTON GRIFFEE	26	R	93%	SHAWN MCPHERSON	22	R	86%
JOSH CALLOWAY	10	R	100%	DAVID HALE	74	R	93%	DAVID MEADE	80	R	86%
JENNIFER DECKER	58	R	100%	AARON THOMPSON	98	R	93%	JOSH BRANSCUM	83	R	85%
STEVEN DOAN	69	R	100%	RANDY BRIDGES	3	R	93%	STEPHANIE DIETZ	65	R	85%
MARK HART	78	R	100%	MARY BETH IMES	5	R	93%	SUZANNE MILES	7	R	85%
JOHN HODGSON	36	R	100%	CHRIS LEWIS	29	R	93%	STEVEN RUDY	1	R	85%
MATT LOCKETT	39	R	100%	BOBBY MCCOOL	97	R	93%	RICHARD WHITE	99	R	85%
SAVANNAH MADDOX	61	R	100%	RYAN BIVENS	24	R	92%	KEN FLEMING	48	R	84%
CANDY MASSARONI	50	R	100%	ADAM BOWLING	87	R	92%	KIM BANTA	63	R	81%
MARIANNE PROCTOR	60	R	100%	PATRICK FLANNERY	96	R	92%	STEVE RILEY	23	R	81%
FELICIA RABOURN	47	R	100%	DEANNA FRAZIER GORDON	81	R	92%	DEREK LEWIS	90	R	79%
TJ ROBERTS	66	R	100%	SAMARA HEAVRIN	18	R	92%	ASHLEY TACKETT LAFERTY	95	D	79%
NANCY TATE	27	R	100%	MICHAEL "SARGE" POLLOCK	51	R	92%	KIM KING	55	R	76%
WALKER THOMAS	8	R	100%	JARED BAUMAN	28	R	92%	JT PAYNE	11	R	73%
SHANE BAKER	85	R	99%	MITCH WHITAKER	94	R	92%	JIM GOOCH JR.	12	R	72%
JASON NEMES	33	R	99%	STEVE BRATCHER	25	R	91%	KEVIN JACKSON	20	R	67%
TOM SMITH	86	R	99%	MIKE CLINES	68	R	91%	VANESSA GROSSL	88	R	62%
KIMBERLY POORE MOSER	64	R	98%	TONY HAMPTON	62	R	91%	AL GENTRY	46	D	24%
BILL WESLEY	91	R	98%	MATTHEW KOCH	72	R	91%	RACHEL ROARX	38	D	23%
MYRON DOSSETT	9	R	98%	WILLIAM LAWRENCE	70	R	91%	ADAM MOORE	45	D	21%
ROBERT DUVAL	17	R	97%	AMY NEIGHBORS	21	R	91%	BEVERLY CHESTER-BURTON	44	D	20%
CHRIS FREELAND	6	R	97%	DAVID W. OSBORNE	59	R	91%	TINA BOJANOWSKI	32	D	18%
MICHAEL MEREDITH	19	R	97%	REBECCA RAYMER	15	R	91%	SARAH STALKER	34	D	18%
SCOTT SHARP	100	R	97%	KEN UPCHURCH	52	R	91%	CHAD AULL	79	D	17%
JAMES TIPTON	53	R	97%	WADE WILLIAMS	4	R	91%	DANIEL GROSSBERG	30	D	17%
NICK WILSON	82	R	97%	SUSAN WITTEN	31	R	91%	JOSHUA WATKINS	42	D	17%
RYAN DOTSON	73	R	96%					PAMELA STEVENSON	43	D	15%
JOSH BRAY	71	R	96%	TIMMY TRUETT	89	R	88%	LISA WILLNER	35	D	14%
CHRIS FUGATE	84	R	96%	THOMAS HUFF	49	R	88%	ANNE GAY DONWORTH	76	D	14%
EMILY CALLAWAY	37	R	95%	KIM HOLLOWAY	2	R	87%	ERIKA HANCOCK	57	D	14%
JASON PETRIE	16	R	95%	JOHN BLANTON	92	R	87%	MATTHEW LEHMAN	67	D	14%
Family Advocates				DANIEL ELLIOTT	54	R	87%	GEORGE BROWN JR.	77	D	11%
DANIEL FISTER	56	R	94%	SCOTT LEWIS	14	R	86%	LINDSEY BURKE	75	D	9%
DJ JOHNSON	13	R	94%					MARY LOU MARZIAN	41	D	9%
								ADRIELLE CAMUEL	93	D	8%
								NIMA KULKARNI	40	D	8%

*** KY House Republican Leadership***
Speaker of the House — David Osborne (Dist. 59)
Speaker Pro Tempore — David Meade (Dist. 80)
Majority Floor Leader — Steven Rudy (Dist. 1)
Majority Caucus Chair — Suzanne Miles (Dist. 7)
Majority Whip — Jason Nemes (Dist. 33)

*** KY House Democrat Leadership***
Minority Floor Leader — Pamela Stevenson (Dist. 43)
Minority Caucus Chair — Al Gentry (Dist. 46)
Minority Whip — Lindsey Burke (Dist. 75)

VIEW THE FULL SCORECARD AT
KENTUCKYFAMILY.ORG/SCORECARD

What does Governor Beshear's faith actually teach him? Not much of anything.

OPINION: Nick Spencer on Gov. Beshear's dangerous distortion of God's word for immoral political purposes.



Nick Spencer
Director of Policy

A common refrain during remarks from Governor Andy Beshear is an appeal to his faith. Beshear, who is a deacon of an extremely liberal church in Louisville, will often situate his progressive ideology in the context of vague Scriptural principles absent their true context or authorial intent. Such an approach to God's inscripturated word—ignoring context and authorial intent to justify political actions inconsistent with the Lord's will as expressed through all of Scripture—is not only an act of unfaithfulness incompatible with a true Christian witness, but is a detestable lie about God's character and His design for the created order that fails to accomplish the punishing of evil and promotion of good to which governing authorities have been commissioned (Rom. 13:3-4).

As an example, in signing a 2024 executive order (*pictured*) that prevented Christian counselors and pastors from sharing the Bible's message on gender and sexuality, Beshear appealed to that same Bible's words on the *imago Dei* (image of God). Beshear said, "My faith teaches me that all children are children of God, and where practices are endangering and even harming those children, we must act." Beshear is certainly correct in saying that all people are made in the image of God, and that it is the government's responsibility to step in and uphold public order and safety.

The problem with Beshear's approach to these issues is that he uses faith as a means to provide what appears to be sincere cover for his radically progressive political ideology, rather than expressing, by faith, a coherent worldview and set of moral principles that are meant to reshape our minds and our actions in the world. In his comments on the executive order—thankfully nullified by the passage of HB 495 in the 2025 session of the General Assembly—he appeals to two distinct concepts that are worthy of attention: (1) the image of God, as mentioned above, and (2) the concept of harm.

As Beshear uses them, these concepts retain their worldly meanings while receiving a gloss of faith. To be made in the image of God is simply to be human—no more and no less. To be harmed is something as subjective as being told that what you want or what you feel is not good for you—a line of argument used by LGBTQ activists to seemingly discredit the biblical approach to counseling on gender and sexuality. The difference between Beshear's use of these concepts and the Bible's use of the same concepts, is that Scripture provides objective content and context for what these terms mean and how they ought to be understood in public discourse.

Everywhere that it is mentioned in Scripture, the image of God always refers back to Genesis 1 and 2, which provide a normative understanding that human biology is fixed and immutable. Using the image of God as an excuse to justify homosexual or transgender ideologies purposefully distorts how Scripture speaks about God's image. Likewise, Scripture talks clearly on harm from a physical perspective. Physical harm brings a reciprocal punishment for the abuser, laws were instituted requiring individuals to protect others from physical harm on their property by fencing their roofs, etc. These are the harms with which government must concern itself under Romans 13, but Beshear again lies by leaving out such context.

What can this kind of faith teach someone? What kind of faith springs from fitting Scripture into a worldly mold rather than shaping the world by the mold of Scripture? Nothing. A faith that cannot tell you substantively what it means to be made in God's image cannot account for the brokenness that befalls that image through sickness, disease, and disfigurement. A faith that cannot clearly delineate actual harm from hurt feelings cannot explain why government should lock up a serial killer if killing is what makes him happy.

It is only by submitting ourselves fully to the authority and sufficiency of Scripture that we can

understand what is wrong with the world around us and how God has providentially ordered its restoration. As we recently celebrated the resurrection, that celebration was filled with reminders of two distinct, yet life-changing realities. First, the resurrection reminds us of our own profound brokenness. Following the events of Genesis 3, we are impacted in all facets by the presence of sin. Not only do our bodies age and fall victim to disease because of sin's presence in the world, but humanity also suffers from sin's *noetic* effects—a fancy theological term that refers to the impact of sin on our ability to think and reason rightly. As a result, the way that we think about ourselves and our neighbors can often be skewed toward ungodliness.

Second, Christ came as the only sufficient solution to humanity's sinful state. Often connected with his comments on faith, Beshear will tell listeners that they are "perfect" just the way they are. If this was the case, why did Christ have to give up His life? The answer is simple: we are not perfect just the way we are, but Christ came to give His life as a ransom for many that we might then be freed to pursue a life pleasing to God despite our sin. While Beshear's faith cannot account for the resurrection because it cannot admit the reality of human brokenness, a truly biblical faith affirms both man's brokenness and Christ's perfection. That biblical faith is what The Family Foundation fights for in Frankfort and throughout the Commonwealth. The faith once for all delivered to the saints.



General Assembly provides pro-life clarity.

Separating fact from fiction around Kentucky's HB 90, an important legislative win for life this session.



Towards the end of the legislative session, the General Assembly put together a package of policies that clarified medical procedures that are not abortions under Kentucky law and expanded pro-life resources for families. HB 90 ended up becoming the vehicle for this package to advance through the General Assembly.

The clarifications of Kentucky's pro-life laws ensure that doctors can provide care in emergency situations without the risk of potential prosecution. Specifically, the law mentions medical care to save the life of the child, miscarriage care, treatment for sepsis, delivery of a stillborn child, removal of an ectopic pregnancy, and molar pregnancy as medical conditions that would not run afoul of Kentucky's abortion ban. The new language also restates language that is currently in Kentucky's laws. These changes were made in response to lies from the media and the abortion industry that our pro-life laws do not give doctors the ability to intervene when a woman experiences a medical emergency.

The need for HB 90 was also driven by lies from pro-abortion politicians

continuing to claim that without unrestricted abortion, women will continue to die from ambiguities in pro-life laws. Interestingly enough, the same pro-abortion forces opposed HB 90 because the clarifications expose their blatant deceptions.

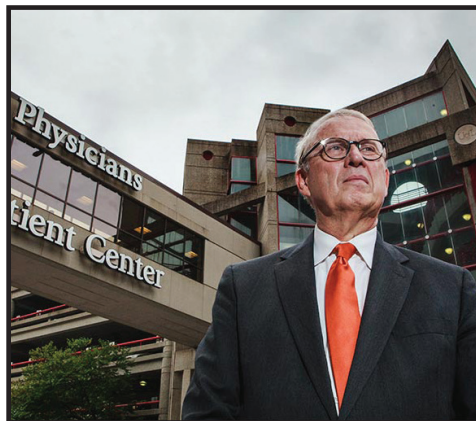
Importantly, the changes in HB 90 do not weaken Kentucky's pro-life laws in any way. Abortion is still banned without any political exceptions under Kentucky law. In each case specifically mentioned in the bill, intent is the key factor that separates the doctor's actions from abortion. Abortion is the intentional ending of a preborn life. The intent of the physician in these circumstances is to preserve the life of the mother—not to kill the child.

Additionally, HB 90 expands availability for perinatal palliative care when a child dies before or shortly after birth. This care helps give families a chance to create bonds and memories with a child before having to say goodbye. Ensuring this care is available to grieving families is pro-life and pro-family. HB 90 also finally legalizes freestanding birthing centers. Freestanding birthing centers give mothers an additional (and hopefully more affordable) option to consider for their maternal healthcare needs. Expanding access to maternal healthcare options is also pro-life and pro-family.

Governor Beshear ended up vetoing HB 90. However, the General Assembly overwhelmingly voted to override the veto with only 2 Republicans (Rep. Grossl and Rep. King) voting against.

Dr. Josephson wins free speech suit vs. UofL.

University acted unlawfully in retaliating against renowned doctor who spoke out against harmful gender ideology.



On April 21, our friends at Alliance Defending Freedom announced that Dr. Allan Josephson, their client, had agreed to a settlement of \$1.6 million from the University of Louisville in his First Amendment free speech claim against the university. While we are thankful that justice prevailed, we are disappointed that UofL wasted large amounts of taxpayer dollars fighting an unconstitutional battle against Dr. Josephson.

The situation leading to the lawsuit began when Dr. Josephson correctly expressed concerns over gender "transitions" on minors back in 2014. In 2017, Dr. Josephson spoke at a Heritage Foundation event on the dangers of performing gender "transitions" on kids. He spoke at this event in his personal capacity, not as a member of UofL faculty. Shortly after speaking at the event, university employees started to retaliate against Dr. Josephson because of his expressed views.

The director of the LGBT center at Louisville emailed the dean of the medical school and complained about Dr. Josephson's speech. The email led

to further discussions amongst the medical school faculty, which eventually resulted in a plan to target Dr. Josephson. In 2017, the medical school dean pressured Dr. Josephson to step down from a leadership role in his department. However, that was not the end of the retaliation. In 2019, the medical school declined to renew Dr. Josephson's contract, effectively firing him.

UofL's settlement finally ends Dr. Josephson's legal drama and provides restitution for his injuries. However, this situation has exposed a constitutional issue at one of Kentucky's leading public universities. Those who express unpopular opinions at UofL are at risk of being targeted for their beliefs. Public universities should encourage the open exchange of ideas and must not censor conservative or religious viewpoints.

In 2026, the General Assembly should use this situation as an opportunity to strengthen protections for free speech at our public universities. The Family Foundation was instrumental in the passage of the Campus Free Speech Protection Act (HB 254) from Rep. Savannah Maddox (R-Dry Ridge) in 2019. While that law greatly improved free speech protections on college campuses, it did not solve all the issues, as evidenced by Dr. Josephson's situation. Unfortunately, more recent efforts to pass stronger legislation have gotten little movement in the legislative process. We urge the General Assembly to ensure the free exchange of ideas is properly protected on public campuses in Kentucky by updating and strengthening the Campus Free Speech Protection Act.

◆◆◆◆ **SAVE THE DATE** ◆◆◆◆
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

KENTUCKY FAMILY FORUM

**EMBASSY SUITES LEXINGTON/UK COLDSTREAM
LEXINGTON, KY**

Coach Joe Kennedy, an eighteen-year Marine veteran, was an assistant coach for the Bremerton High School (BHS) varsity football team. His commitment to pray after each game was met with disapproval from his school district and turned into a lengthy court battle. On June 27, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of Coach Kennedy and his First Amendment right, and, on March 8, 2023, Coach Kennedy was officially reinstated as assistant coach and returned to the field for one game on September 1, 2023, before resigning.



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER
COACH JOE KENNEDY**

The Kentucky Citizen is a publication of The Family Foundation

The leading Christian public policy organization in Kentucky that stands for Kentucky families and the Biblical values that make them strong.

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Help us move forward in boldness.

2025 is a year to move forward in bold conviction. Will you support our ministry today?



David Walls
Exec. Director

As we begin our important Spring fundraising efforts, please know your generous financial support is urgently needed, so we can amplify our impact across Kentucky for generations to come.

I hope you will give generously to help us with several needs:

First, after another intense session, we need to replenish our financial resources and continue to expand our ministry. The Lord has provided our ministry the opportunity to grow its influence at the Capitol. And with the expansion of our team, we recently moved into a larger suite across from our former location. Our office expansion is a blessing from the Lord, but a bigger space also comes with increased costs.

Second, the U.S. Supreme Court continues to weigh in on important issues that impact many of the bills we have fought for over recent years. The Family Foundation has

made it a priority to join legal briefs and coalitions engaging on such cases. Right now, your support is helping us amplify these legal battles nationwide.

Third, as I mentioned in the front story, additional cultural battles are already taking place that The Family Foundation is urgently confronting. Your support will help us continue to educate and advocate, so we can uphold God's created order while protecting the women and girls of this Commonwealth.

Your gift today, of any amount, would be a blessing to our ministry! While our opposition is well-funded, our trust remains in the Lord – knowing that we have truth and the faithfulness of supporters across Kentucky on our side. **2025 is a year to move forward in bold conviction. I hope you will make as bold and generous of a gift as you can to help us keep faithfully standing for biblical values across Kentucky!**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely of David Walls.

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