

Kentucky Association of Manufacturers
2024 Kentucky General Assembly Session
Recommendations on Legislation
As of March 15, 2024

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS

SUPPORT - Kentucky's manufacturers support the following bills:

HB 1 (Petrie) - Budget Reserve Trust Fund Expenditures

Strategic, one-time investments in economic development, transportation, and government effectiveness that will improve Kentucky's competitiveness and quality of life.

HB 7 (Bray) - Autonomous Vehicles

Will bring Kentucky in line with some two dozen states in establishing a regulatory framework for the operation of autonomous vehicles and automated driving systems.

HB 4 (Osborne) - Constitutional Amendment

Will improve the General Assembly's ability to act effectively.

HB 15 (Branscum) - Consumer Data Privacy

The most balanced, business-friendly data privacy proposal that has been offered in Kentucky.

HB 122 (Flannery) - Department of Revenue Administrative Regulations

Requires the Department to publish online its guidance and rulings ("administrative writings") within 120 days and should improve the agency's effectiveness.

HB 320 (Elliott) - Statutes of Limitation

Reduces the statute of limitation for wage and hour, civil rights, and wrongful discharge violations and will improve Kentucky's business climate.

HB 444 (S. Bratcher) - Electrician Certification

Modernizes the education and experience criteria for electrician and master electrician licenses.

SB 1 (Stivers) - Endowed Research Fund

By encouraging research consortia among Kentucky's public universities, this legislation will accelerate economic innovation and growth.

SB 10 (McDaniel) - Constitutional Amendment - Election Schedule for Statewide Officers

Constitutional amendment to move statewide constitutional officer elections to presidential election years, increasing government efficiency.

SB 215 (Carpenter) – Motor Vehicles

An important measure for Kentucky's auto industry, which is essential to our economic future.

OPPOSE – Kentucky's manufacturers oppose the following bills:

HB 58 (Fleming) – Tax Expenditure/Economic Development Incentive Review Board

Would likely have a negative impact on business location and expansion decisions.

SB 148 (Wheeler) – Nonrecourse Consumer Legal Funding

Would likely encourage a large expansion of business litigation, negatively impacting Kentucky's legal climate.

SB 135 (Southworth) – Drugs and Medicines

SB 182 (West) – Conditions of Employment

SB 295 (Tichenor) -- Vaccines

These bills and other similar bills threaten employer rights and would harm the state's business climate by allowing exceptions to employer vaccine mandates and/or by establishing a civil right of action and/or a cause of action and/or a claim under workers' compensation.

**ATTRACTING, DEVELOPING, AND RETAINING A WORLD-CLASS
WORKFORCE**

SUPPORT – Kentucky's manufacturers support the following bills:

HB 179 (Heavrin) – Disability Income and Paid Family Leave Insurance

Authorizes the sale of disability income insurance and paid family leave insurance, products that may help businesses recruit and retain employees.

HB 345 (Fleming) and SB 127 (Storm) – Kentucky Aerospace, Aviation, and Defense Investment Fund and Advisory Committee

Creates the investment fund and advisory committee under the Council for Postsecondary Education to fund public-private partnerships for training and equipment for these growing sectors of Kentucky's economy.

HCR 43 (Heavrin) – Reestablishing the Early Childhood Education Task Force

Reestablishing this Task Force will be a positive step as the commonwealth continues to address the important issues of child care and early childhood education.

BUILDING A HEALTHY KENTUCKY

SUPPORT – Kentucky's manufacturers support the following bills:

HB 10 (Moser) – Maternal and Child Health

Multiple provisions to improve maternal and child health.

HB 407 (Meade) – Osteopathic Medicine

Permits Eastern Kentucky University to offer doctor of osteopathic medicine degrees, which over time would serve to partially alleviate Kentucky's provider shortage and improve patient access to care.

SB 149 (Meredith) - Point of Sale Rebates

Would ensure more drug rebates are actually paid to patients.

SB 188 (Wise) – Patient Access to Pharmacy Benefits

Would partially reform pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) business practices, which will benefit Kentucky businesses, pharmacies, and families.

HB 190 (Sharp) – Prohibition of Contract Mail Order Pharmacies

Would increase patient choice and serve as a partial reform of PBM business practices.

OPPOSE – Kentucky's manufacturers oppose the following bill:

SB 27 (S. Meredith) and HB 490 (Williams) – Pharmaceutical Drug Price Discrimination

A price control measure for prescription drugs that is anti-free market and exceeds the legislative intent of the federal 340B drug pricing program.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

SUPPORT – Kentucky's manufacturers support the following bills:

HB 136 (Bauman) – Environmental Audits

Would extend to Jefferson County the provisions of state law regarding environmental audits and the liability and amnesty provisions arising from such audits, as are already enjoyed by businesses in every other Kentucky county.

HR 96 (Gooch) – Concern Regarding Regulatory Overreach of the Chemical Industry

Expresses concern regarding the Federal Government's regulatory actions and proposed restrictions that will negatively affect the chemical industry's ability to innovate and contribute to the nation's economic progress.

SB 198 (Carroll) – Nuclear Energy Development

Establishes the Kentucky Nuclear Energy Development Authority, an important proposal for Kentucky's energy future.

SJR 149 (Smith) – Best Management Practices for PFAS

Directs the Energy and Environment Cabinet to provide guidance and consultation on best management practices for PFAS.

OPPOSE - Kentucky manufacturers oppose the following bill:

HB 116 (Kulkarni) – PFAS Working Group

Creates a PFAS working group and establishes various requirements for manufacturers that may include PFAS in products they manufacture.