



**Statement to the Senate on Employer Rights Legislation
March 21, 2024**

Kentucky's business community has consistently opposed legislation that infringes on employer rights or puts state government in the middle of our free market economy.

This year is no different. Kentucky should continue to look for pro-growth policies and put aside proposals that increase government interference in the private sector.

Unfortunately, Senate Bills 295, 135, 182, and Senate floor amendments to HB 274 would increase such intrusion. Those bills and others like them are anti-free market and the opposite of a pro-business approach since they would significantly constrain employers' ability to respond to the specific circumstances of their workforce and protect their employees.

Rather than create certainty for Kentucky industry and other businesses and protections for our citizens, those proposed laws only create additional bureaucratic red tape and potentially put employers in the enforcement crosshairs of existing federal law in the event of another health emergency or pandemic. They make it less likely, not more, that Kentucky manufacturers making essential goods that were critical during the pandemic will be able to do so while maintaining the safety of their employees.

Kentuckians look to the General Assembly to support economic expansion and it has responded time and again in recent years, with actions that have spurred increased investment and job growth. Kentucky's economic performance shows the wisdom of such pro-business policymaking. We ask you to continue your focus on growing jobs and providing new opportunities for Kentucky families.

Making a Better Kentucky

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