



# NIMA KULKARNI

POLITICAL PARTY: DEMOCRATIC

POLITICAL RACE: KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WEBSITE: [WWW.VOTENIMA.COM](http://WWW.VOTENIMA.COM)

## What is your position on establishing liability protections for employers from frivolous lawsuits related to COVID-19?

I believe that existing liability protections and the legal process are sufficient in the vast majority of cases to protect employers from frivolous lawsuits or fraud. If there is a gap or loophole somewhere in the system that is allowing employers to be repeatedly sued without any legal basis, on the pretext of the pandemic, it is something I will certainly look at as a legislator.

## What are your top budget priorities for the 2021 session?

Addressing the myriad economic impacts of the pandemic, including homeowner and renter concerns, eliminating unfunded mandates, and finding new sources of revenue.

## What criminal justice reforms would you support and/or oppose in the 2021 session?

I support automatic restoration of voting rights, better access to expungement resources, sentencing reform, consistent policy for bodycam use, increased resources/personnel for officers answering calls involving issues pertaining to mental health issues, increased resources for mental health care for officers, among many others

## What are your transportation and infrastructure priorities for 2021?

We must invest more in public transportation. This is an area we must develop if we are to compete with peer cities. In addition to reducing pollution, it will be an incentive for younger professionals to move to Louisville. Whether that is a better, more expansive bus system or trolley cars, we can and must find a way to lower our dependence on individual cars. In addition, our roads and bridges need funding for safety and maintenance. Traffic patterns and lights in some neighborhoods work, but many do not. We must build consistency to lower congestion and reduce accidents where needed.



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## What steps do you think the General Assembly should take to lower the unemployment rate and get Kentuckians back to work?

We are in the midst of a pandemic that as of today has claimed more than 1,000 lives in Kentucky. While it is important to consider and plan for rebuilding our economy, we can see that rushed, short-sighted policies result in real deaths. I think we must focus on providing as much assistance as possible to our families during this crisis. We must also support our small businesses, who account for almost all businesses in KY. We must not lose sight of their needs while catering to larger enterprises who can financially weather this storm. Kentuckians are ready to work, but it must be safe and sustainable for them to do so or we risk even more deaths. The economy is made up of people, and they must be our priority.

## How can the General Assembly most effectively support K-12 schools and higher education institutions in the 2021 session?

Our public schools need to be fully, equitably, and consistently funded.

## What changes to Kentucky's tax code would you support to improve Kentucky's business competitiveness?

We need a progressive tax code in Kentucky that ensures that all individuals and organizations pay their fair share.

## What measures would you support in the 2021 session to support Kentucky's economic recovery?

I would support measures that help our small businesses reopen safely for their employees and customers. I support measures that would also help them adapt/pivot as needed to remain in business. Our small businesses contribute the lion's share of tax revenue to our Commonwealth, and we must ensure that we support them through the pandemic, and help them rebuild.