



# SAMARA HEAVRIN

POLITICAL PARTY: REPUBLICAN

POLITICAL RACE: KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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

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

I am supportive of legislation that would help prevent businesses, who are currently practicing safe opening policies encouraged by both the state and federal governments, from being targeted by lawsuits. I believe that it unfairly targets small businesses who are working diligently to comply with both health and safety standards.

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

While there are many top budget priorities for the 2021 session, two of the most important will be education and infrastructure.

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

A few of the criminal justice reforms that I would support in the 2021 session would include, but are not limited to:

- Adjusting felony thresholds
- Improving probation and parole processes
- Providing more education and workforce training opportunities to inmates
- Improving and reforming Kentucky's current expungement system

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

While there are several transportation and infrastructure priorities that are specific to the 18th District, a few of priorities that should be considered across the Commonwealth are:

- Modernizing the revenue-sharing formula that the state uses to allocate gas tax revenues
- Finding solutions to ensure that both electric and hybrid vehicles adequately contribute to maintaining our roads and bridges.
- Finding ways to provide funding to invest in quality water and sewer infrastructure.



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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?

It will be important in the 2021 session that we focus on unemployment insurance reforms that prioritize getting our unemployed Kentuckians back to work. This could be accomplished by developing a competitive state tax code that not only attracts new businesses and encourages entrepreneurship, but also grows our workforce across Kentucky.

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

A few ways that we can most effectively support K-12 schools and higher education institutions in the 2021 session would be:

- Supporting dual credit and early college programs
- Finding a way to provide funding and expanding access to full-day Pre-K education
- Continuing to dedicate the same/ increasing funding to the SEEK formula

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

While there are many changes to Kentucky's tax code that I believe would improve Kentucky's business competitiveness, here are a few that I would support in 2021:

- Move to a consumption based tax rather than heavily relying on state income tax.
- Simplify the application process for tax credits
- Update the reference to the Internal Revenue Code on an annual basis
- Fully exempt manufacturing machinery parts from the state sales tax

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

A strategy that includes a reformed tax code, ensuring unemployment Kentuckians are able to return back to work, and a budget that prioritizes re-opening the economy.