



**GREATER LOUISVILLE INC.**  
The Metro Chamber of Commerce

**2017**

# LEGISLATIVE AGENDA





**GREATER LOUISVILLE INC.**

The Metro Chamber of Commerce

## || THE MOST COMPETITIVE COMMUNITIES ARE THOSE WITH A STEADFAST COMMITMENT

to improving their workforce, quality of life, and business climate through aggressive, proactive programming. Greater Louisville Inc. and regional business leaders know that driving Greater Louisville's economy is the number one priority. To that end, in the fall of 2013 Greater Louisville Inc. partnered with regional leaders and Market Street Services to develop comprehensive regional economic growth strategy—Advantage Louisville. The plan focuses on immediate opportunities for job creation and economic growth. The following legislative agenda is driven by the GLI 2017 Strategic Plan and outlines the legislative actions necessary to achieve the economic and job growth outlined in Advantage Louisville 2020.



# PROMOTE INVESTMENT IN QUALITY ECONOMIC GROWTH

## || ATTRACT & GROW GREAT BUSINESSES

**In a 21st century economy where businesses and talent can locate wherever they choose, Kentucky must provide a business-friendly environment and adequate incentives to attract, grow, and retain tomorrow's top employers.**

Growing great businesses here in the Commonwealth requires a complimentary mixture of business-friendly tax structure, targeted support from government organizations, and an increase in access to capital.

One very important step that Kentucky can take in business attraction is to pass Right to Work legislation and give employees the freedom to choose whether or not to join a union at their place of employment. To augment Kentucky's pro-business environment, the legislature should increase funding for economic development and business attraction to continue the unprecedented momentum of the last two years.

## **II SMALL BUSINESS DRIVES EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMIC GROWTH**

Small businesses represent 96.7 percent of all employers and employ 47.8 percent of the private-sector labor force. Kentucky must cultivate these businesses and support small business owners. Funding for Kentucky's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) match programs is critical to the future of Kentucky's small businesses. Kentucky must incentivize capital investment and improve access to capital for its business start-ups. These companies would likewise benefit from incentives and regulatory reforms that facilitate governments and corporations doing business with Kentucky-based small businesses.

The legislature should protect small businesses from overly burdensome regulations and should permit the creation of Public Benefit Corporations to attract impact investors and permit a wider array of 21st-century businesses.

## **II STREAMLINE REGULATION**

As Kentucky-based businesses grow across the nation and the world, patchworks of regulation create onerous and expensive compliance issues. Kentucky should seek to make definitions for independent contractors and workers compensation statutes more closely conform to surrounding states. In doing so, Kentucky's workers' compensation laws must be fair and balanced for both the employee and the employer. Reforms that seek to control rising medical costs, while ensuring the injured worker receives proper care, are essential. Legislation that restores employers' subrogation rights, correcting case law that is harmful to business, would reduce costs on employers and the overall system. Revisions to the Workers' Compensation Act that streamline litigation and simplify the process are necessary to maintain a healthy and motivated workforce. These reforms would create regulatory continuity in the bi-state region that would promulgate a climate for better economic growth, simplify compliance, and reduce costs to employers.

Regional continuity should include the repeal of Kentucky's prevailing wage laws or significant amending of the statutes to raise the threshold or manner of calculating the rates. GLI likewise supports maintaining the state and local minimum wages in line with the federal law.

## **II PROMOTE LOCAL CONTROL OF REVENUE OPTIONS, INCLUDING LOCAL INVESTMENTS FOR TRANSFORMATION (LIFT)**

The General Assembly should endow local governments with flexibility and additional options in raising dedicated revenue for specific transformational community development projects, which are limited in scope and approved through local referendum.

In an extended economic recovery, Kentucky's cities continue to struggle to invest and maintain infrastructure and to fund important community projects. The Kentucky Constitution severely limits cities' ability to raise new revenue. GLI supports more control for local governments, including an amendment to the Kentucky Constitution that would permit cities to ask voters to decide on a temporary local option sales tax. Thirty-eight states allow one or more local governments to levy a local option sales tax. GLI advocates for LIFT because voters deserve the opportunity to decide if they want to raise revenue for specific projects in their communities.

## **II EXPAND GAMING IN KENTUCKY**

Expanding gaming will create new jobs and grow our economy. The tax dollars derived from gaming can improve our education system, build infrastructure that promotes economic growth, and ensure the long-term stability of the state budget.

Kentucky has been left behind for too long, and our surrounding states continue to take advantage of our unwillingness to act.

## **II A SIMPLE & COMPETITIVE TAX CODE\***

**Kentucky's revenue and expenditure policies should be aligned to promote growth and business investment while providing resources to meet the Commonwealth's necessary obligations. Spending should be prioritized to invest in Kentucky's future competitiveness. Revenue generation should encourage growth and prosperity and must be coupled with spending reforms and an emphasis on local control. All tax measures should serve to build and attract a talented workforce.**

Comprehensive tax reform is critical to the economic future of the Commonwealth. It should be:

### **>> Simple.**

Kentucky's tax code should be simplified for ease of compliance and reduced tax administration costs. The legislature should eliminate most sales tax exemptions and sunset any outdated tax exemptions and underutilized or ineffective tax credits. For ease of compliance, the legislature should streamline the application for remaining tax credits while more rigorously investigating fraudulent claims.

### **>> Fair.**

Any reform should strive to be broad-based and should not impose a disproportionate burden on any specific sector or industry. To reduce the exorbitant tax burden on businesses large and small in the Commonwealth, Kentucky should decrease the personal and corporate income taxes and the Limited Liability Entity Tax (LLET). The business inventory tax should be eliminated.

### **>> Competitive.**

The tax code should transition to be more consumption-based for increased competitiveness. Revenue measures should adjust Kentucky to a consumption-based tax system. Kentucky should increase the cigarette tax, expand gaming in the state, and lower current tax exemptions on retirement income.

\*These Tax & Fiscal Policy positions represent the general principles and philosophies of GLI and its member businesses. These positions may be amended upon review of any comprehensive tax reform legislation filed.



## **II A SUSTAINABLE RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

The single largest threat to Kentucky's fiscal wellbeing, credit rating, and business attraction efforts is the nearly \$40 billion unfunded pension liability. We applaud the steps taken during the 2016 legislative session to address the pension crisis; however, additional measures must be taken to increase the transparency and the long-term sustainability of our drastically underfunded state retirement systems. Following the governor's executive orders, the legislature should enshrine into law mechanisms such as public disclosure of investment fees and holdings, and contracts; the alignment of public retirement systems with state procurement laws; and requirements for public retirement system board of trustee members to have previous investment experience.

To ensure that investment in the pension system goes to shoring up the unfunded liability, the legislature should pursue reform measures outside of the inviolable contract, such as reforming health care costs.

Though funded above 55%, the Kentucky Teachers Retirement System cannot be exempt from critical structural reforms. Parallel legislation to the 2013 reform bill to KRS should be enacted to create a hybrid pension plan for new KTRS employees that is more reflective of the private sector.

None of these structural reforms can have the desired impact without the legislature fully meeting its funding obligations to both systems. The General Assembly must continue the strong commitment it demonstrated in the 2016 budget and ensure that the Actuarially Required Contribution (ARC) is made in each biennium. GLI will also look forward to the results of the performance audits of the state pension systems and any other necessary reforms that they will reveal.



## **II INFRASTRUCTURE IS CRITICAL**

### **NOW IS THE TIME FOR ROAD AID MODERNIZATION**

Kentucky's urban areas spend more than \$200 million per year constructing and maintaining around 10,000 miles of city streets, only a third of which comes from state or federal funds. GLI seeks to modernize the 66-year-old formula to adequately account for lane mileage and usage when calculating fund allocations.

### **A VIBRANT AND SUSTAINABLE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

Kentucky should review, revise, and provide adequate and sustainable funding mechanisms to ensure funding for all modes of transportation in the short and long-term to create a world-class multimodal transportation system. To achieve this end, the legislature must:

- Protect the integrity of the road fund by refusing to divert road funds to pay for General Fund obligations
- Support continued funding and maintenance of public transportation
- Protect the integrity of the Aviation and Economic Development Fund
- Fund increased infrastructure at Kentucky's major ports
- Promote safe transportation options beneficial to bike and pedestrian mobility

### **STRONG ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE**

Likewise, the legislature should fund capital investments in Kentucky's energy infrastructure, including modernizing and expanding energy delivery and resources to ensure Kentucky's continued energy competitiveness and making energy pricing and usage more transparent. Development of "green" infrastructure, including green building construction and rehabilitation, storm water conservation efforts such as pervious pavement and green roofs, and the expansion of tree cover in urban areas through partnerships and incentives, is critical to Louisville's growth and future quality of place.

## THE FUTURE OF FIBER

In years past, GLI has supported telecom reforms in Kentucky. In 2015, after seeing investments go to other states for years, the legislature passed limited regulatory reform in an effort to help modernize Kentucky's communications infrastructure. The final bill was limited in scope in order to offer what some thought were necessary consumer protections. This upcoming session we will be two years removed from passage of that important first step, and in that time, we have seen significant investments from telecom providers in the state, increased deployment of fiber-optics in urban and rural areas alike and zero adverse effects on consumers. Given that, GLI believes it is time to expand these reforms to eliminate the remaining outdated regulation and fully welcome investment in Kentucky.

## II ENSURE A FINANCIALLY HEALTHY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN KENTUCKY

**GLI supports a health care system in Kentucky that is sustainably funded, controls costs of specialty drugs and care, and that provides the most competitive and transparent system for businesses, insurers and providers.**

As the Commonwealth explores changes to Medicaid expansion, it is imperative that the costs to the state be balanced against the need for improved health of Kentuckians. A healthy workforce is an important economic development aspect, but must be at a cost to the state that is sustainable.

A healthy system must be transparent, efficient, and constantly improving. Kentucky must enforce health information transparency for providers, employers, and insurers. The Commonwealth should pass legislation to incentivize the use of evidence-based practices by providers that encourage effective, low-cost treatments and interventions. To these ends, the state and the Greater Louisville region must invest in health care research, development, and commercialization – aggressively pursuing all available federal funding.

Additionally, GLI encourages the legislature to maintain the current system of Certificate of Need for new medical facilities in the Commonwealth. The current system takes the impacts and benefits of new medical facilities into account to provide health care more efficiently to Kentuckians.

## **II GROW OUR SIGNATURE INDUSTRIES**

### **GROW THE BOURBON INDUSTRY**

With the growing popularity of the Urban Bourbon Trail® and the expansion of the Kentucky Bourbon Trail® experiences into downtown Louisville, visitors across the nation and the world are flocking to the Derby city for these experiences. Kentucky's bourbon industry is supported by small business retailers that provide specialized product knowledge and ample selection of craft wines and spirits to consumers. Allowing the sale of wine in grocery stores would have a negative impact on our signature industry and potentially damage consumers' access to the products they want.

### **PROMOTE INVESTMENT IN HEALTH & AGING CARE**

As Greater Louisville becomes a national health care leader, it is important for state law to incentivize investment and minimize barriers to entry in the state health care market. GLI supports Medical Liability Reform legislation that would limit the exposure of health care companies to frivolous lawsuits and would incentivize more health care professionals to relocate to the Commonwealth. GLI also supports new limitations on civil liability and allowing voters to consider a constitutional amendment that would allow the General Assembly to enact true tort reform. To adequately serve a growing population, Kentucky must address the shortage of medical professionals in the Commonwealth by creating programs to build the medical workforce and providing incentives for medical professionals to relocate.

Overspending in Kentucky's Medicaid system leaves fewer and fewer resources for important initiatives like education and economic development. Kentucky must rein in and reform

Medicaid spending without inflicting undue harm on Medicaid recipients and health care providers. Kentucky should commission a close review of Medicaid programs to ensure resources are allocated correctly for the most cost-effective outcomes. GLI recommends a thorough review of the Medicaid program to ensure access to care for vulnerable populations while controlling rising costs.

## **II THE FUTURE OF ADVANCED MANUFACTURING**

Already home to more than 230,000 manufacturing jobs, Kentucky is poised to be a leader in the United States' advanced manufacturing revolution. To improve Kentucky's industrial climate, GLI opposes forcing an employee to join a union as a condition of employment.

## **II LOGISTICS HUB FOR THE WORLD**

As the home to UPS WorldPort, Louisville is already the world's leading logistics hub, but this position is not guaranteed. To continue capitalizing on Greater Louisville's central location and proximity to all five major modes of transportation, Kentucky must invest in being the world standard for 21st century infrastructure.



# FOSTER INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## || INVESTMENT SPURS INNOVATION

For Kentucky's entrepreneurs to succeed, they must have access to the capital they need. GLI supports initiatives that increase available capital, especially doubling the funding cap for the Angel Investment Tax Credit.

## || ENERGY AS A CATALYST FOR GROWTH

With forward-thinking investment and incentives, Kentucky is poised to be a leader in the move toward energy independence. Kentucky's energy policies should grow renewable, domestically-produced and alternative energy, while maintaining the Commonwealth's low energy costs. Kentucky should incentivize investment in key area technologies as well as increase funding in key areas critical to energy breakthroughs, including science, technology, engineering, and math.



# CHAMPION EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

## **II IMPLEMENT A CRADLE TO CAREER PIPELINE IN KENTUCKY**

To produce a workforce that will excel in the 21st century, education must start before Kindergarten. The legislature should make meaningful steps to fund need-based pre-K so that every student can enter Kindergarten ready to learn. We must align postsecondary education with workforce needs, focusing equally on two- and four-year degrees to fill high- and middle-skilled jobs.

## **II ACCOUNTABILITY FOR INSTITUTIONS & INDIVIDUALS**

To ensure success in K-12 education, institutions and individuals must be held accountable and rewarded for increased effectiveness. A professionalized education system should permit differentiated compensation, incentives, and ancillary benefits for teachers and administrators based on responsibilities, qualifications, effectiveness, and service location.

A decorative blue graphic on the left side of the page, resembling a bridge structure with diagonal beams and horizontal supports, extending from the top to the bottom.

## **II INCENTIVIZE STEM**

To allow every student to be an agent of their own success, Kentucky should incentivize computer coding in high schools and provide systems that reward schools that offer high quality courses in STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and math. The system should encourage innovative approaches to curriculum development and teaching tools on the district level.

## **II MAINTAIN RIGOROUS STATE EDUCATION STANDARDS**

GLI supports high academic standards in the Commonwealth that are based on college and workforce needs assessment, are benchmarked internationally, and allow for local decision making. Since the implementation of the Kentucky Core Academic Standards, Kentucky has seen an increase in ACT scores and reading and math proficiency. It is critical that Kentucky maintain standards that are leading the Commonwealth to have a more capable, career-ready workforce. The standards should continue to develop and adapt to keep Kentucky students competitive with national and international benchmarks.

## **II EDUCATION REFORM**

With the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in Congress, GLI is glad to see the Commissioner of Education, the Kentucky Board of Education, the Governor's administration, and the Kentucky General Assembly taking steps to ensure that the Commonwealth's education laws complement those on the federal level.

GLI recognizes the need for a process for the review of state education standards and believes the process should remain as streamlined and apolitical as possible, outside the jurisdiction of the legislature.

GLI also supports assessment reforms that allows for use of industry certificates as assessment while local school districts should have more influence over Professional Growth & Effectiveness Systems once an effective state framework is in place.



School accountability is critical to ensuring our children succeed and become productive members of the workforce. However, we must ensure that all schools are held to the same standard so that no students are left behind. Measuring individual school performance improvements, students' college and career readiness, and improvements in graduation rates are all critical and must be done within the new confines of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

All of these reforms will result in improved educational outcomes that are nationally and internationally benchmarked while eliminating unnecessary bureaucracy in our school systems.

## **II CHARTER SCHOOLS & SCHOOL CHOICE SCHOLARSHIPS**

All students in Kentucky should enjoy a diverse array of educational opportunities, regardless of their economic standing. It is important that as Kentucky explores public charter schools, these educational offerings meet the needs of all students and not detract financially or otherwise from providing high-quality public education. The Kentucky General Assembly should look to best practices learned from the 43 other states that have implemented public charter schools. In addition, GLI has in the past supported keeping decision making on education with local boards of education and in regards to authorizing public charter schools we support them having that authority.

To give more low- and middle-income families access to the school that best fits their child's needs, the legislature should pass Scholarship Tax Credit legislation that also includes resources for public education.

## **II THE ROAD TO 55,000 DEGREES**

With a goal of adding 55,000 degrees in the Greater Louisville region by 2020, it is imperative that Kentucky improve the affordability and effectiveness of post-secondary education by addressing the rising cost of college and offering institutional alternatives, including technical school and competency-based programs such as Commonwealth College. In cooperation with

Indiana, Kentucky must renew tuition reciprocity and expand it to additional counties and universities in Kentucky and Indiana.

State support of higher education should be restored to 2009 levels. Some portion of the funding to postsecondary institutions should be performance-based and reward institutions that produce high-performing graduates who finish on time and without significant student debt. To increase student access and success, the state should provide consistent support for dual credit and early college programs.

## **II GREAT CITIES HAVE GREAT UNIVERSITIES & LIBRARIES**

To support universities in Louisville and across the Commonwealth, GLI supports funding for the Research Challenge Trust Fund, Bucks for Brains, other university-based research and a state of the art system of public and university libraries that cooperate to provide equal access to information for all Kentuckians.

## **II FOCUS ON WORKFORCE TRAINING**

To ensure a qualified workforce of all ages, the legislature must support the expansion of adult education and workforce training programs. Every year, thousands of manufacturing and maintenance jobs go unfilled though they do not require a college degree. Subsidies for GED testing, career competency credits, and targeted investments of state money to fund industry partnerships and job training initiatives are critical to long-term workforce sustainability.



# CULTIVATE & ATTRACT GREATER LOUISVILLE'S DIVERSE TALENT

## **|| PROMOTE HEALTH & LIFELONG WELLNESS IN THE WORKFORCE**

A healthy workforce is important to a strong economy. Therefore, it is critical that the legislature support incentives for businesses encouraging healthy lifestyle choices. The state should also consider further measures to increase wellness, including a statewide smoke-free workplace law, an increase to the cigarette tax, and the removal of smokers as a protected class. The General Assembly should take significant action on combatting the opioid epidemic in the Commonwealth to ensure public health and alleviate workforce issues.

## **|| ENSURE THAT GREATER LOUISVILLE BUSINESSES HAVE ACCESS TO ALL QUALIFIED WORKERS**

In 2016, Kentucky took a strong step in improving criminal justice and expanding its eligible workforce by passing felony expungement reform for a limited number of former offenders following a crime-free period post-release. In our General Assembly's next

session, the Commonwealth should continue to pursue additional changes to our criminal justice system that lower costs, reduce recidivism thus making our communities safer, and lead to more productive, self-sufficient, and employable citizens. Legislation advancing these goals should contain components that aid in achieving successful re-entry for those who have paid their debt to society, to include eliminating absolute prohibitions for former offenders to earn certain type of licenses, as well as re-examining what constitutes a felony, to include raising the felony theft threshold (now \$500) and creation of a “gross misdemeanor” category of offenses. A gross misdemeanor category would allow those convicted of a limited number of low-end felonies (three non-violent offenses under a current proposal) to face up to two-years’ incarceration as punishment but avoid the collateral consequences of being a convicted felon and allowing for easier employability after paying society’s debt.

Kentucky’s primary, secondary, and postsecondary education institutions should adequately support English as a Second Language (ESL), foreign language, and global competency programs that make Kentuckians more competitive and competent in a world economy and that allow new Kentuckians to be educated and find adequate employment in the Commonwealth.

Kentucky will thrive most when it positively attracts and retains the best national and international human capital and talent. To further this objective, immigration regulations, public policies, and incentives in Kentucky should welcome and encourage top talent to settle in the Commonwealth. Kentucky’s immigration and positive domestic in-migration legislation should ensure ease of compliance with immigration regulations for Kentucky’s businesses to thrive.

Greater Louisville Inc. promotes and embraces diversity, inclusion, and equality. GLI strongly opposes any discriminatory legislation or regulation that might hinder any person or organization’s desire to locate or do business in Kentucky or that would jeopardize this state’s ability to attract and retain diverse talent.

# CONNECT GREATER LOUISVILLE'S PLACE & IDENTITY

## II SPUR DEVELOPMENT ACROSS BLIGHTED AREAS

The Kentucky legislature must incentivize investment in depressed and underutilized properties to rejuvenate the neighborhoods and local economies in some of Kentucky's most historic areas. This should include easing the transfer of vacant and abandoned properties into productive use, and restructuring statutory language on TIF financing to make it friendlier to developers. Vibrant neighborhoods where all properties are utilized are critical to these revitalization efforts.

Aiding this process, planning and zoning laws should be modified to make it more difficult to delay redevelopment projects through endless appeals.

## II A CONNECTED REGION

**All changes in the transportation system should facilitate the movement of goods and services or the transportation of people to and from job centers throughout the region.**

Kentucky and Indiana should ensure that the final tolling for the Ohio River Bridges Project does not discourage interstate commerce or do undo harm to local businesses utilizing the bridges. Furthermore, public transit agencies should be allowed to receive a 100% rebate of the state fuel taxes paid and on toll charges for the use of federal state and local roadways and bridges.

In the 2017 Budget Session, GLI supports additional road funding to meet the needs created by rapid economic development in Southern Indiana, led by River Ridge Commerce Center. The source of this funding should align with the use and derive from a transportation-based revenue source.

## **II A UNIFIED IDENTITY FOR A UNIFIED REGION**

The 15 counties that form the Greater Louisville Metropolitan Statistical Area in Kentucky and Southern Indiana must cooperate on a social, economic, and policy level to create a unified region with a cohesive national brand. Through regional collaboration, Greater Louisville offers all of the benefits that come from big cities, small towns, and everywhere in between. By cooperating across counties and across states, Kentucky and Southern Indiana communities can play to our regional strengths, keep expenses in check by sharing resources, and offer a competitive region to live, work, and play that will become a national destination for families and talent.

GLI supports the continued economic development of Southern Indiana via the Indiana Regional Cities Initiative. In 2015, the State of Indiana awarded \$42 million to three regions across the state that are now leveraging state funds to attract private investment, increase their tax bases, and add Quality of Place attractions. GLI supports efforts for Southern Indiana communities to form a Regional Development Authority (RDA) to make application for this designation in future funding rounds. GLI will continue to work with Isi in its efforts for regional cooperation.

The Louisville Loop seals Greater Louisville's position as a world-class city with a world-class park system. With the expansion of the Ohio River Greenway in Clark and Floyd Counties, the Louisville Loop has the potential to become truly regional. The two remaining tasks are to adequately support completion of the Ohio River Greenway in Indiana, and to create a bike and pedestrian connection across the Ohio River between Portland and New Albany, allowing full completion of a pedestrian loop.

Beyond physical connections, broadband access across Southern Indiana and Greater Louisville is critical for further economic

development and connectivity. Indiana should modernize regulations allowing for the addition of fiber cable to current telecommunications infrastructure on private property.

## **II PROMOTING KENTUCKY'S CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS**

The Greater Louisville community has an arts and cultural scene that competes with the top cities in the world. The legislature should increase investment in the Kentucky Arts Council and other cultural institutions because they play such a critical role in regional identity and drive economic development throughout the Commonwealth by attracting and retaining top talent, promoting the vitality of the region, leveraging tourist dollars, and helping sustain a positive quality of life for our citizens.

## **II IMPROVING THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT**

To improve the quality of our regional environment, legislative or regulatory action should encourage the sustainable and long-term growth in regional sewer capacity and Louisville Water Company's regional water expansion projects.

## **II THE OHIO RIVER IS OUR GREATEST ASSET**

Louisville would not exist but for the Falls of the Ohio. This river that built one of the region's richest cultural centers must continue to play an important role as an economic engine for the bi-state region. With the expansion of the Jefferson Riverport in Southwest Louisville, the new connectivity of the Port of Indiana in Jeffersonville, the soon-to-be-completed East End Crossing, and expansion of the Panama Canal, inland waterways are poised for resurgence across the United States and Greater Louisville must ensure that it is a central part of this growth.

Beyond trade, the Ohio River, its tributaries and creeks offer a sustainable water resource for the region. Kentucky and Indiana's legislatures should work in cooperation to devise a long-term plan for water utilization that ensures safety, sustainability and quality while supporting economic development through tourism, manufacturing, recreation, and agriculture.



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Brooksource  
Brown Hotel  
Browning Investments, LLC  
Buffalo Construction, Inc  
Caldwell Tanks, Inc.  
Cambridge Technology Inc.  
Capacity Care, Inc.  
Chrysalis Ventures  
CLICK IT Staffing  
Coca-Cola Bottling Company  
Consolidated  
Commonwealth Sign Company, Inc.  
ConAgra Foods  
Confluent Health, LLC  
Dakkota Integrated Systems, LLC

Day Dream Hotel Group  
Delivra  
Donan Engineering Co.  
Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Inc.  
Eaton Corporation  
Emerson  
EOP Architects  
Equian/Trover  
Ferreri Partners PLLC, Attorneys at Law  
FireKing Security Group  
First Kentucky Trust Company  
Fort Knox Federal Credit Union  
French Lick Resort  
Freudenberg Medical  
GBBN Architects, Inc.  
Genentech  
Genscape, Inc.  
GILT  
GlowTouch Technologies  
Gordon Food Service  
Harrison County Economic Development Corporation  
Hollenbach-Oakley, LLC  
Horseshoe Southern Indiana  
Houchens Industries  
Indiana University Southeast  
Insuramax, Inc.  
Integrity HR, Inc.  
Jack Henry - iPay Solutions  
JBS USA LLC  
Jefferson County Public Schools  
JOM Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.  
Kentucky Derby Museum  
Kentucky Employers' Mutual Insurance  
Kentucky Kingdom & Hurricane Bay  
Kentucky Select Properties  
Laise Packaging  
LDG Development, LLC  
LINAK U.S. Inc.  
Long John Silver's, LLC  
Louisville Bats Baseball  
M & M Cartage Co., Inc.  
Malone Solutions

Masonic Homes of Kentucky, Inc.  
Merrill Lynch & Co.  
Metro Bank  
Mightily  
Monroe Shine & Company, Inc.  
Morgan & Pottinger, PSC  
Mortenson Dental Partners  
National Association of Women  
Business Owners  
Neace Ventures  
Neil Huffman Auto Group  
NeuStar, Inc.  
Northwestern Mutual  
nth/works  
NTT Data, Inc.  
Office Depot Business Division  
Olin Brass  
Pegasus Industries & Packaging  
Peritech Solutions  
Peritus  
Porter Paints/PPG Architectural  
Finishes, Inc.  
PrideStaff  
QK4, Inc.  
Rainbow Design Services, Inc.  
Raytheon Company  
ResCare, Inc.  
Reynolds - Louisville Foil Plant  
Right Angle  
River City Bank  
Schwartz Insurance Group  
Sheakley  
Siemens Industry, Inc.  
Signarama Downtown  
Southern Wine & Spirits of KY  
Spalding University  
Steel Technologies, LLC  
The Dow Chemical Company  
The Glenview Trust Company  
Tier Reit  
Toyota Motor Manufacturing,  
Kentucky, Inc.  
Trilogy Health Services

Trinity Video Communications  
Tyco Integrated Security LLC  
UniPak, LLC  
United Mail, LLC  
Universal Linen Service, LLC  
USI Insurance  
Valiant Construction, LLC  
Van Zandt, Emrich & Cary an  
Assured Partner  
V-Soft Consulting Group Inc.  
WAKY Radio  
Walgreens Area Office  
Weber & Rose, P.S.C.  
Wells Fargo Bank, NA  
Windstream Communications  
World Trade Center Kentucky  
Zoeller Company

## **GOVERNMENT PARTNERS:**

City of Jeffersontown  
Louisville Metro Government

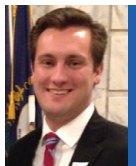
# GLI ADVOCACY & PUBLIC POLICY TEAM



**SARAH DAVASHER-WISDOM**  
**Chief Operating Officer**  
SDavasher@GreaterLouisville.com  
502.625.0073



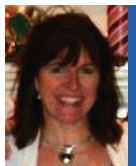
**IRIS WILBUR**  
**Director of Government Affairs  
& Public Policy**  
IWilbur@GreaterLouisville.com  
502.625.0056



**STEWART LEWIS**  
**Government Affairs Coordinator**  
SLewis@GreaterLouisville.com  
502.625.0034



**ALISON BROTZGE-ELDER**  
**Communications Manager**  
ABrotzge@GreaterLouisville.com  
502.625.0046



**KIM JAMES**  
**Executive Assistant  
& Project Specialist**  
KJames@GreaterLouisville.com  
502.625.0090



# 2017 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA-IN-BRIEF

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## PROMOTE INVESTMENT IN QUALITY ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Prioritize Economic Development & Business Attraction
- Fund Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) & Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) match programs
- Allow Public Benefit Corporations
- Reform Workers' Compensation
- Repeal Prevailing Wage
- Promote Local Control of Revenue Options, including Local Investments for Transformation (LIFT)
- Expand Gaming
- Pass Comprehensive Tax Reform
- Fund & Reform Kentucky Retirement Systems
- Modernize the Road Aid Formula & Transportation Funding
- Fund Capital Investments in Kentucky's Energy Infrastructure
- Reform Telecommunications Infrastructure
- Maintain Certificate of Need
- Grow Our Signature Industries
  - Bourbon Industry: Oppose Wine Sales in Grocery Stores
  - Health & Aging Care: Pass Tort Reform & Monitor Medicaid Spending
  - Advanced Manufacturing: Pass Right to Work
  - Logistics: Invest in Our Logistics Hub

## FOSTER INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Double the Funding Cap for the Angel Investment Tax Credit
- Incentivize Investment in Energy Breakthroughs

## CHAMPION EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Increase Funding for Education & Workforce Development
- Incentivize STEM courses
- Maintain Rigorous Education Standards

- Support aligning Kentucky's school accountability system with the Every Student Succeeds Act in order to:
  - Improve the career readiness of Kentucky graduates
  - Eliminate Achievement Gaps
- Allow Public Charter Schools
- Enact a Tax Credit for School Choice Scholarships
- Renew Tuition Reciprocity
- Support Research Challenge Trust Fund, Bucks For Brains & Other University-Based Research
- Expand Adult Education & Workforce Training Programs

## Cultivate & Attract Greater Louisville's Diverse Talent

- Implement Statewide Smoke-Free Workplace Laws
- Increase the Cigarette Tax
- Remove Smokers as a Protected Class
- Combat the Opioid Epidemic
- Reform the Criminal Justice System
- Adequately Support ESL, Foreign Language, & Global Competency Programs
- Strongly Oppose Discriminatory Legislation or Regulation

## Connect Greater Louisville's Places & Identity

- Ease Condemnation of Blighted Properties
- Reduce Delays of Redevelopment Projects
- Additional Road Funding to Meet Needs in Southern Indiana
- Support Indiana Regional Cities Initiative
- Increase Investment in the Kentucky Arts Council
- Improve Regional Sewer Capacity & Water Expansion Projects
- Devise a Long-Term Bi-State Plan for Water Utilization