

CENTRAL KY REGIONAL PUBLIC POLICY GROUP

2016 State Priorities

BOURBON – CLARK – FAYETTE – FRANKLIN – JESSAMINE – MADISON – SCOTT – WOODFORD

Enhance Public-Private Partnerships (P3)

The Central KY Policy Group encourages state lawmakers to pass comprehensive P3 enabling legislation that encourages the creation of public-private partnerships for a wide range of infrastructure projects at all levels of state and local governments.

Improve Workforce Investment Programs

The Central KY Policy Group encourages state officials to be proactive in efforts to align and improve existing programs through local partnerships with employers and educators to meet the education needs of the students and the workforce needs of the business community.

Fight for Sensible Regulatory Environment

The Central KY Policy Group urges state lawmakers to be ever mindful of any state and federal regulations that will result in a significant adverse economic impact and unfunded mandates on our citizens, farmers, cities and industries. Restoring government accountability to the regulatory process is essential to stopping unnecessary regulations that stifle job creation.

Support Investments in Higher Education

Our post-secondary institutions – including the University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University, KCTCS, and Kentucky State University – are critical economic drivers and key to closing workforce skills gaps. These institutions are deserving of more investment, not less. For UK, the Governor's proposed budget cuts would have a chilling effect on their capacity to prepare students for the workforce, develop innovative research and provide critical health care.

Support Military Facilities

Bluegrass Station:

Bluegrass Station continuously seeks interagency solutions to aid growth without the need for federal or state funding. Legislative support is often necessary for timely response to emerging missions.

Bluegrass Army Depot:

The Central KY Policy Group reminds legislators of the urgent need to strategically plan for the sustained economic development of the Bluegrass Army Depot (BGAD) in Madison County and the surrounding region after the chemical demilitarization project is complete in 2023.

Protect Kentucky's Energy Economy

Kentucky's low electricity rates, which give the state a competitive advantage in the manufacturing jobs sector, are being threatened by various proposed EPA regulations on emissions, electricity generating facilities that use coal, and new regulations on Kentucky's mining industry. In response, the Central KY Policy Group encourages state lawmakers to:



- ❑ Support for the continued viability of Kentucky's coal industry which has provided the state with low cost electricity and attracted dozens of energy-intensive industries like steel, aluminum, automobile and other manufacturing facilities that employ tens of thousands of Kentuckians.
- ❑ Oppose any federal efforts to interfere with state environmental and energy regulatory primacy.
- ❑ Encourage the investment in production and use of reliable energy fuels like natural gas.
- ❑ Ensure a level playing field for all low cost fuel sources to secure Kentucky's low electricity rates.
- ❑ Support research, development and utilization of new technologies for a cleaner energy strategy and continued reductions in carbon and greenhouse gas emissions while limiting unreasonable adverse economic impacts on Kentucky residents, businesses, and coal industry.
- ❑ Support investments in developing alternative fuels and renewable energy to spur economic growth and energy innovation.

Strengthen Regional Infrastructure

The Central KY Regional Policy Group supports developing an interactive, regional transportation system and making strategic investments in improving infrastructure including roadways and bridges, aviation, waterways and railways to improve economic development and quality of life of residents.

Support Improvements to the Kentucky River Locks & Dams

The Central KY Policy Group strongly urges the KY General Assembly and KY River Authority to support improvements to the Kentucky River Locks and Dams.

Support for the I-75 Connector Project (Jessamine/Madison Counties)

The Central KY Policy Group encourages state legislators to continue to consider funding support for the I-75 Connector Project, linking Jessamine County to I-75 in Madison County.

Support for Construction of Ohio River Bridges

The Central KY Policy Group supports the funding and construction of the vital Ohio River Bridges projects. We urge funding support for the replacement of the Brent Spence/I-75 Bridge in Northern Kentucky and the I-69 Bridge in west Kentucky.



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