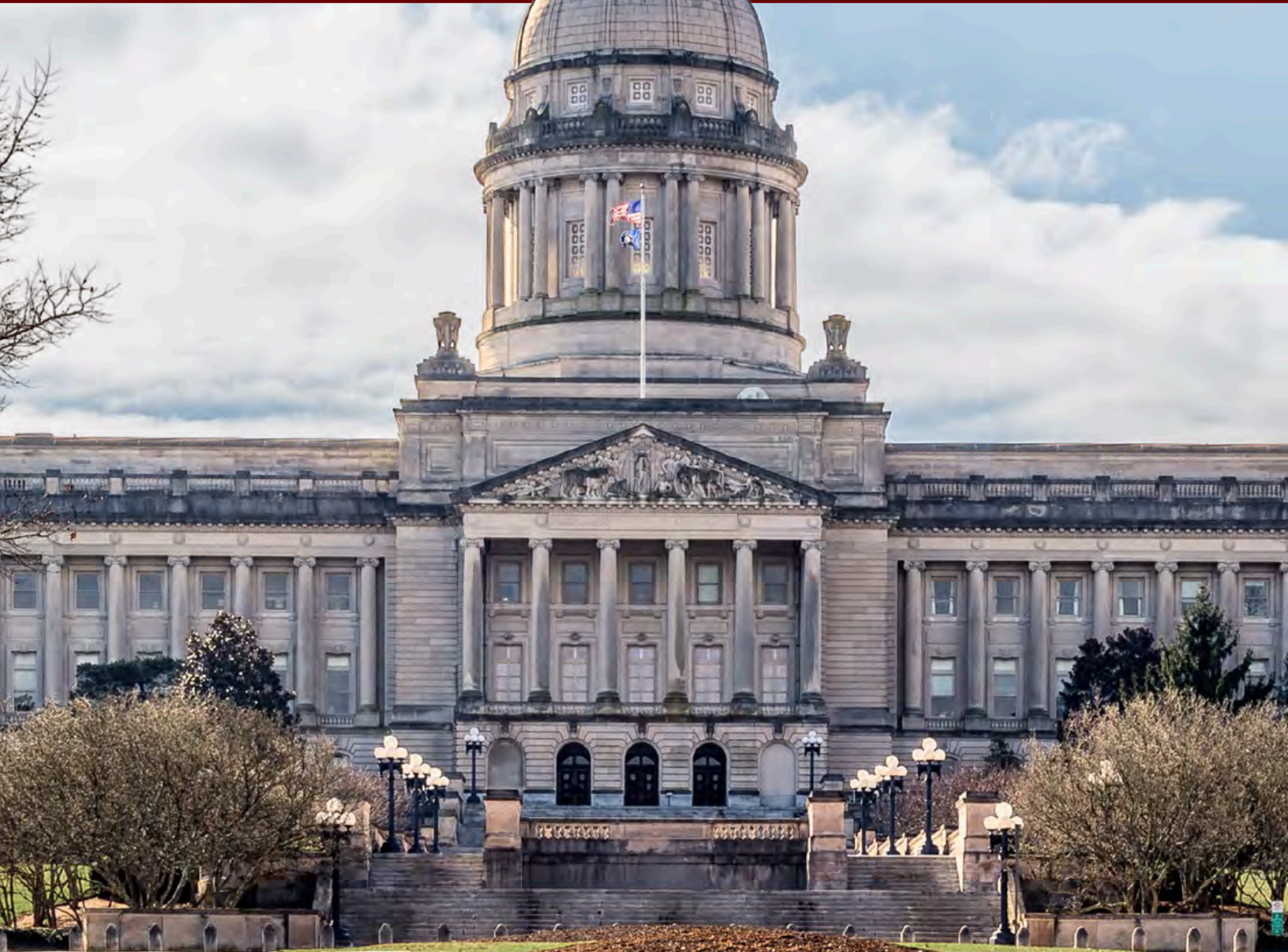




ONE LOUISVILLE



# 2026 LEGISLATIVE OUTCOMES

# Legislative Outcomes at a Glance

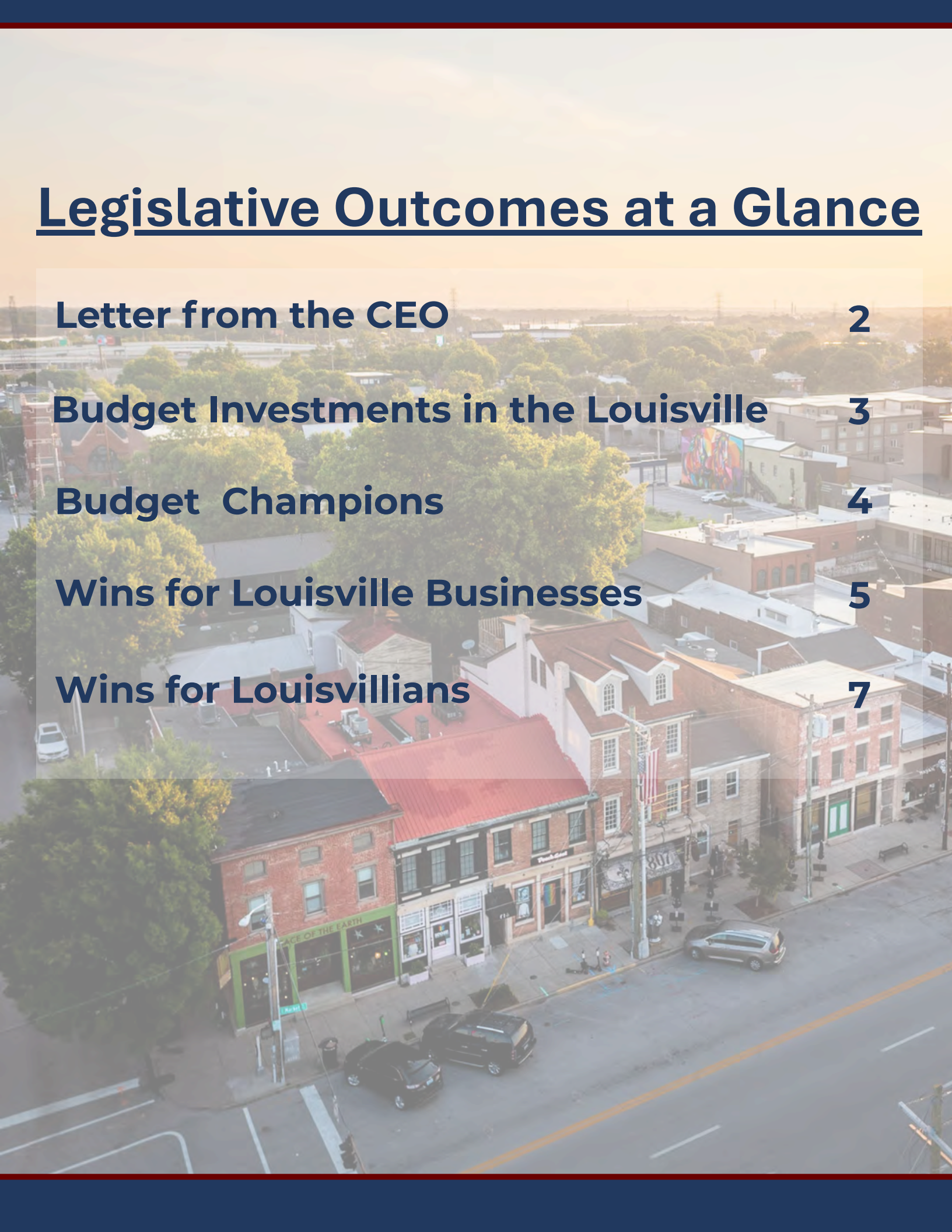
**Letter from the CEO 2**

**Budget Investments in the Louisville 3**

**Budget Champions 4**

**Wins for Louisville Businesses 5**

**Wins for Louisvillians 7**



# Letter from the CEO



**Trevor Pawl**  
Chief Executive Officer

One Louisville Members,

The 2026 General Assembly opened the door to more opportunities to build on Louisville's momentum from the last few years. In 2025 alone, Louisville located 43 new projects representing over \$3 billion capital investment and nearly 2,800 new jobs.

One Louisville was formally launched in the middle of the legislative action, but that didn't stop our team from driving real results for the business community in Frankfort. We met with legislators from across the state and across the aisle, hosted a powerful Louisville Day in Frankfort, and in the end helped pass several transformative policies.

Louisville is walking out of the 2026 legislative session with a lot to be proud of and excited about: funding for many of our anchor institutions and members, a new innovative talent attraction grant program, and long overdue reforms to Kentucky's childcare system and second chance hiring structure. These aren't just dollars being filtered into our economy, they're tools to help us grow our population, get people into our workforce, and compete with peer communities.

None of that is possible without the help of our legislative champions, partners, and coalition support. We were proud to work closely with Mayor Greenberg, and support many of his administration's budget requests, which ultimately brought \$160 million back to Louisville. Our Talent Attraction Coalition partners, including Commerce Lexington and the Northern Kentucky Chamber, were critical in helping get the Kentucky Talent Recruitment Grant Program over the finish line.

Like in every session, there were opportunities left on the table. Policies to address Louisville's housing shortage fell short this session, but we are committed to working with legislators and elected officials at all levels of government to make it more efficient and affordable to develop housing in the region.

As we reflect on this session and our first two months as a new organization, I want to thank our members and community partners, whose support through our transition into One Louisville and in our advocacy efforts has made all the difference. Whether you attended a policy committee meeting, joined us for Louisville Day in Frankfort, or shared how a particular issue impacts your business, you helped us move the needle. Thank you for your support and engagement. I'm looking forward to continuing to work together and securing even more wins in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor Pawl', written over a white background.

Trevor Pawl  
Chief Executive Officer  
One Louisville

# Louisville Budget Wins

<p><b>\$90 million</b> to Louisville Metro Government for the revitalization of Downtown Louisville</p>	<p><b>\$17.3 million</b> to Louisville Regional Airport Authority to improve airfield capacity</p>	<p><b>\$10 million</b> to KentuckianaWorks to support workforce development programming</p>	<p><b>\$10 million</b> to Kentucky Center for the Arts for capital improvement projects</p>
<p><b>\$5 million</b> to Louisville Zoo for grounds maintenance and expansion of programs</p>	<p><b>\$4 million</b> to Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport for route incentives and to compete for flight opportunities</p>	<p><b>\$3.2 million</b> to Louisville Orchestra for a statewide harmony tour</p>	<p><b>\$3 million</b> to Speed Art Museum for renovations</p>
<p><b>\$3 million</b> to Louisville Metro Government for 4th &amp; Oak revitalization</p>	<p><b>\$3 million</b> to Louisville Ballet for touring infrastructure, facility improvements, and restoring live music performances</p>	<p><b>\$2.5 million</b> to Louisville Metro Government for brownfield remediation</p>	<p><b>\$2.5 million</b> to University of Louisville for pursuit of National Cancer Institute designation</p>
<p><b>\$2.5 million</b> to National Sons of the American Revolution for creation of an education center</p>	<p><b>\$2.5 million</b> to Greater Kentucky and Southern Indiana Alzheimer's Association</p>	<p><b>\$2 million</b> to The Kentucky Center for African American Heritage for programming, deferred maintenance, and staffing</p>	<p><b>\$1.75 million</b> to Louisville Metro Government for site access improvements</p>
<p><b>\$1.3 million</b> to University of Louisville for Literacy and Numeracy Clinic in West Louisville</p>	<p><b>\$1 million</b> to Down Syndrome of Louisville for operations</p>	<p><b>\$750,000</b> to Canopy KY for operations</p>	<p><b>\$47.3 million</b> to JCTC to construct student services building downtown</p>
<p><b>\$12 million</b> to Jefferson Regional Detention Center (Lyndon) and Jefferson County Youth Detention Center (Downtown)</p>	<p><b>\$6 million</b> to University of Louisville cancer research and screening</p>	<p><b>\$5 million</b> to Louisville Driving Track for statewide law enforcement training use</p>	<p><b>\$1.89 million</b> to University of Louisville spinal cord and head injury research</p>

# Budget Champions

Budget champions were chosen for their leadership during the session to secure key investments for Louisville and the business community



Senate President  
**Robert Stivers**



Speaker of the House  
**David Osborne**



House Majority Whip  
**Jason Nemes**



Senator  
**Julie Raque Adams**



Senator  
**Christian McDaniel**



Representative  
**Jason Petrie**

# Wins for Louisville Businesses



**Lee Weyland**  
Partner,  
Weyland Ventures

“The enhancements to the Historic Preservation Tax Credit helps unlock the full potential of Louisville’s architectural legacy, ensuring that the preservation of our most significant structures becomes a catalyst for meaningful economic growth in the urban core. By strengthening incentives for adaptive reuse, we’re empowering developers to transform historic assets into vibrant mixed-use destinations that honor our past while driving investment, activity, and long-term vitality across the city.”

## HB 757 (J. Petrie)

### Historic Preservation Tax Credit (HTC)

HB 757 expands access to tax credits for commercial historic developments.

### Kentucky Business Investment (KBI)

HB 757 also expands eligible costs for KBI incentives to include software costs, lease improvements, and technology expenses, enabling business services and technology companies to qualify.

## HB 900 (J. Petrie)

### Downtown Development Fund

HB 900, as part of the investment in Downtown Louisville, allocated money for a downtown development fund. This fund will finance transformative projects that convert vacant and blighted properties into income-producing developments. This state investment will be combined with private and philanthropic contributions to create a revolving \$100 million dollar fund.

## Investment in Economic Development by the Numbers

<b>\$80 million to support mega-development economic projects and site readiness</b>	<b>\$50 million to fund the Kentucky Product Development Initiative (KPDI)</b>	<b>\$10 million to create a Residential Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund</b>	<b>\$5 million to support the Community Development Financial Institutions</b>	<b>\$5 million to invest in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund</b>
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## SB 291 (B. Storm)

### Copper Theft

SB 291 requires recyclers to log all metal transactions and makes clear that failing to do so can be treated as evidence of knowing receipt of stolen property. It closes an important gap by addressing the theft of copper telecommunication wire and metals belonging to telecommunications companies. This bill was a top priority for Louisville's telecommunications and infrastructure sector.

Following legislative action in 2025, copper theft in Louisville has dropped 90%

Louisville's Critical Infrastructure Task Force

## SB 195 (C. Richardson)

### Civil Liability for Infrastructure Projects

SB 195 establishes a clearer liability framework for contractors on public road and bridge projects. It creates a presumption that work completed according to government-designed plans is properly done once accepted, while still allowing claims where plans were not followed or defects contribute to harm.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAMPIONS



House Majority Floor Leader  
**Steven Rudy**



Representative  
**Susan Witten**



“Louisville is the economic engine that powers the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and I appreciate the legislature working with us to invest more than \$1 billion to help grow even more good-paying jobs here, revitalize our downtown, and make infrastructure improvements in every corner of our community.”

- **Mayor Craig Greenberg**

# Wins for Louisvillians

## HB 576 (R. Duvall)

### Talent Attraction

HB 576 establishes the Kentucky Talent Recruitment Grant Program, a grant pool designed to help communities across the state attract and retain talent. This has been a long-time business community priority. One Louisville was proud to work with coalition partners from across the state to develop this solution. Grants will be accessible for local talent attraction initiatives like One Louisville's Live in Lou, relocation programming, and retention efforts for college students.

“Talent attraction is critical to creating the economy of tomorrow. I was proud to work with stakeholders like One Louisville to establish the Kentucky Talent Recruitment Grant Program and look forward to seeing the benefits of this investment across the Commonwealth.”

- Representative Robert Duvall

## SB 1 (D. Givens)

### Large School District Reform

SB 1 grants the superintendent key executive functions, including personnel management, financial operations, and strategic plan implementation. All powers will be exercised under the oversight of the board. This allocation of power allows the superintendent to act more as the CEO of the district, with advisory power granted to the board.

### TALENT CHAMPIONS



Senate Majority Whip  
**Mike Wilson**



Representative  
**Robert Duvall**

## WORKFORCE CHAMPIONS



Representative  
**Samara Heavrin**



Representative  
**Emily Callaway**

### **HB 6 (S. Heavrin)**

#### **Child Care**

HB 6 is consensus-driven legislation addressing several root causes of issues in the child care sector. This legislation will drive progress by:

- Closing data and knowledge gaps
- Bolstering the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to expand affordability
- Streamlining regulations and licensing at the state and local levels
- Cultivating stronger local community engagement
- Strengthening the Employer Child Care Assistance Program (ECCAP)
- Addressing workforce challenges in the childcare sector

### **HB 185 (E. Callaway)**

#### **Second Chance Licensure**

HB 185 focuses on helping individuals with a history of criminal involvement return to the workforce. The bill will require employers to disclose if the applicant's criminal history would disqualify them from opportunities in advance, eliminating unnecessary expenses for training and certification. One Louisville has supported this legislation in recent years as a way to increase workforce participation.

More than 93% of formerly incarcerated individuals between 25-44 are actively working or looking for work.

Prison Policy Initiative



# ONE LOUISVILLE

“The Louisville region saw historic investment and pivotal legislative wins this session. We couldn’t have done it without the support of the business community, our partners, and elected officials who continue to prioritize a thriving economic engine for Kentucky. The work isn’t over and we are already planning for next session where we will advocate for tax reform to keep our region competitive, increased access and funding for housing across the state, and expansion of economic development incentives to attract businesses to the Louisville region. Our team is looking forward to working with the legislature to address issues that hold us back and opportunities to make the Louisville region a great place to live, work, and do business”

– Trevor Pawl  
CEO, One Louisville



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[onelouisville.org](http://onelouisville.org)