



ONE LOUISVILLE

FEDERAL PRIORITIES

2026 Executive Summary

Advocacy Priorities for the Louisville Region



GROW BUSINESS INVESTMENT

These policies directly influence investment decisions, entrepreneurship, business expansion, and Louisville's competitiveness by improving certainty, reducing costs, and increasing access to capital.

International Trade

Promote open, free, and fair trade with other countries and oppose the imposition of tariffs that may harm Louisville businesses.

One Louisville supports trade agreements that promote open, free, and fair trade with other countries and opposes the imposition of tariffs or any approach to international trade that could bring harm to Louisville businesses, limit access to global markets, disrupt supply chains, and exacerbate the soaring inflation our economy is experiencing. One Louisville applauds the temporary suspension of the European Union's and United Kingdom's retaliatory tariffs on bourbon, Kentucky's signature industry, and supports making those changes permanent.

Investment and Development in Disadvantaged Areas

Collaborate with local and federal stakeholders to fully realize the benefits of the New Market Tax Credit and the newly designated Opportunity Zones.

To spur investment and create jobs in low-income, underdeveloped areas in Louisville, One Louisville supports making permanent and expanding the New Markets Tax Credit and finding ways to incentivize and encourage businesses within Opportunity Zones to expand and invest additional capital in those areas. One Louisville also supports federal efforts to encourage pro-development zoning and land-use policies at the state and local levels.

Data Security, Privacy, and Artificial Intelligence

Establish a national framework for AI models that supports innovation and creativity without theft of ideas.

Congressional action is needed to establish a federal data security and privacy protection framework that includes guidelines, education, and funding. This will protect consumers and businesses by providing certainty and consistency of data security from hackers and ransomware. One Louisville also encourages a clear national framework for artificial intelligence models that support innovation and creativity without theft of ideas.



LOWER THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS

Competitive regions make it easier, not harder, to operate a business. These policies help reduce costs, improve regulatory certainty, strengthen supply chains, and ensure Louisville maintains reliable infrastructure.

Joint Employer

Establish commonsense joint employer standards to guide franchisor-franchisee relationships, including support of the American Franchise Act.

To help Louisville businesses operate under reasonable, commonsense rules, the federal definition of joint employer should appropriately limit the standard of joint employer and support franchisor-franchisee relationships. One Louisville supports the passage of the bipartisan, bicameral American Franchise Act, which modestly amends the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA). This legislation would clarify that a franchisor may be considered a joint employer of the employees of a franchisee only if the franchisor possesses and exercises substantial direct and immediate control over one or more essential terms or conditions of the employees of the franchisee.

Aviation

Advocate for funding for the Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport and its partners.

One Louisville encourages lawmakers to maintain federal appropriations for the Airport Improvement Program at the 2025 funding level of \$4.0 billion per year. One Louisville also supports proposals to relax restrictions on flight sharing or expense flight sharing to promote the use and growth of general aviation airports within our region.

Inland Waterway Infrastructure

Promote passage of legislation to establish the Ohio River Restoration Program.

One Louisville is proud to support the bipartisan effort by Congressman McGarvey as he seeks to establish the Ohio River Restoration Program. The Ohio River is the largest body of water in the U.S. that does not receive any funding from the federal government for its maintenance. The Ohio River Basin is home to 10% of the United States population, covers 204,000 square miles encompassing parts of 15 states, has 7,000 miles of waterfront along the Ohio River, and provides drinking water to several million people, including thousands of Kentucky residents. Its protection and care is crucial to our way of life and economy.



ACCELERATE INNOVATION

Innovation drives productivity, investment, and higher wages. These priorities position Louisville to compete for next-generation industries while strengthening entrepreneurship and technology commercialization.

Research and Innovation

Support research funding for health sectors aimed at innovation and positive medical outcomes.

Louisville is proud to be home to hubs of health care innovation from pediatric oncology to end-of-life care. NIH and its counterparts across the health research sector have funded discoveries that transformed the healthcare industry. We encourage Congress and this administration to continue funding this critical sector so we may continue to make this world a better place one new discovery at a time.

CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR GROWTH

These priorities strengthen communities across the Louisville region. And stronger communities will generate long-term economic growth. This section focuses on improving quality of life, attracting talent, and creating healthy, vibrant places where businesses and people want to invest.

Housing

Support the passage of more legislation like the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act to address nationwide housing shortages by streamlining regulatory barriers and removing undue burdens for developers.

One Louisville was thrilled to see the passage of the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act, a bipartisan bill that includes incentives for building supplies, streamlines regulatory barriers, and supplements home repairs. Louisville's housing stock is aging and as we look to address housing shortages across the spectrum, maintaining existing stock is critical. One Louisville urges lawmakers to support more legislation like this to help communities across the country house their residents.