

COMMONWEALTH POLICY

Reinforcing the Commonwealth's Founding Principles; Renewing the Commonwealth's Future Promise

Candidate Training

If you have ever considered running for office or helping on a campaign, this event is for you!

* Feb. 20 - Louisville

* March 12 - Hopkinsville

Read more on page 3.

Defund Planned Parenthood

The Kentucky Cabinet for Health & Family Services will funnel Planned Parenthood of Kentucky affiliates \$331,309 in taxpayer funding for fiscal year 2016. The money comes from the federal government, but the state acts as a pass-through agency to fund the Louisville and Lexington affiliates.

Read more on page 4.

Presidential Caucus

Kentucky Republicans will go to the polls on March 5 to determine their choice for U.S. president nearly two months earlier than in previous elections.

Read more on page 5.

A Message from CPC's Director The Time to Act is Now!

We live in trying and dangerous times. The Middle East has been destabilized with Syria and Iraq mired in war. Millions of refugees are fleeing and ISIS is exporting a theology of hate that is rearing its ugly head right here and ravaging places like San Bernadino and Chattanooga. The FBI reports that there are 900 open cases on domestic terrorist suspects in this country (most connected to radical Islam). But as great the external threat, the more urgent threat comes from within. We have rejected the idea of absolute truth, grown spiritually anemic, and scoff at the God who gives us our freedoms.

Secularists propose new policies and programs precisely because we have rejected the transcendent moral order upon which this nation was founded upon. Marriage has been redefined, but it was destabilized long before the Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage. Half of all first-time births today are to single mothers. Families—the conduit that transmits values from one generation to the next—are struggling just to form. The implicit message today is that families are optional and unnecessary and in fact, whatever two consenting people decide them to be.

Our culture militates against values that make our civilization possible. Politically correct university professors' course syllabi contain "Trigger Warnings" for sensitive students afraid of possibly offensive ideas. (cont. on p. 2)



Continued from p. 1 . . .

Students who cannot tolerate differing opinions now flee to "Safe Zones." The university is supposed to be the place to engage in a battle of ideas without resorting to physical violence. But an austere ideological uniformity on most campuses rejects the former and students are beginning to embrace the latter. Yet, all is not lost.

There is much left worth preserving and fighting for: our families, the ability to create wealth, and the freedom to worship according to our conscience.

We are blessed with a magnificent country in many respects. We live in the land of opportunity and freedom. A land where regular people can run for office and serve at any level of government; where children can dream big dreams; and anyone with a spark of ambition and an ounce of fortitude can use their God-given abilities and make something of themselves.

"We have rejected the idea of absolute truth, grown spiritually anemic, and scoff at the God who gives us our freedoms."

So where should one begin? There is no time for hand wringing, and complaining is counter-productive. It is time to act. Each of us are blessed with something—a voice, resources, energy. Each of us can do something: write a letter to the editor, volunteer on a campaign or even run for office.

The question is how are you investing the time and talents you have been given? What will you do?

We at the Commonwealth Policy Center are investing in a better Kentucky—one that reflects our founding principles, upholds the rule of law, promotes human dignity and affords opportunity to all. Would you join us in this worthy cause?

Richard Nelson

The issues: What bills are we tracking?

- HB 1** - Borrows \$3.3 billion for teachers' retirement fund
- SB 4** - Requires abortionist to meet with patient in person
- SB 5 & HB 31** - Removes county clerk's name from marriage licenses
- SB 7 & HB 61** - Bans state funds from organizations involved with abortion
- SB 13** - Legalizes recreational use of marijuana
- SB 15** - Protects students' religious freedom in public schools
- HB 21** - Requires public school classrooms to post preamble of Kentucky & U.S. Constitutions
- SB 25** - Bans sale of aborted baby body parts
- HB 26** - Protects ministers from being forced to perform same-sex marriages
- SB 48 & HB 12** - Creates program for problem and pathological gamblers
- HB 62** - Drug testing for welfare recipients
- HB 257** - Bans dismemberment abortions, late-term abortions after 20 weeks, and prohibits aborted babies from being disposed in landfills

Do you need a speaker to inform your civic group or congregation? We are available for presentations during the 2016 General Assembly so we can keep you aware of the issues that impact YOU! Contact us at:

commonwealthpolicy@gmail.com
or (270) 271-2713

Call the Legislative Message Line and share your views with your senator and representative: 1-800-372-7181.

Calling All Candidates & Campaign Workers

*Think Kentucky is moving in the wrong direction?
Think Frankfort needs a course correction?
Then do something about it!*

Come and learn about what it takes to run an effective campaign. Legislators, media professionals and political activists will share on topics of campaign organization, media interviews, social media, fundraising, and messaging. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. If you have ever thought about running for office or working on a campaign, this event is for you!



Saturday, February 20
7:30 am-4:00 pm (EST)
Hyatt Place Louisville East*
701 S. Hurstbourne Parkway
Louisville, KY 40222
* Attendee room rate of \$119/night
(reserve by Feb. 10 - 502-426-0119)

Saturday, March 12
7:30 am - 4:00 pm (CST)
Sugar Grove Carriage House
9650 Palmyra Road
Oak Grove, KY 42262

Register today! Cost is \$100.00 and will cover continental breakfast, catered lunch and campaign materials. Scholarships* are available for students. Secure your registration on our website or mail your check to: Commonwealth Policy Center / P.O. Box 5 / Herndon, KY 42236

* Scholarships are available on a limited basis for high school and college students. If you have any questions, please contact Lyn Over at assistantcpc@gmail.com

Republican Lawmakers Aim to Defund Planned Parenthood



Planned Parenthood 2014-15 Annual Report

- performed 323,999 abortions
- \$1.296 billion in revenue
- received \$553.7 million from U.S. taxpayers
- 43 percent of all revenue came from government
- taxpayer subsidy increased by nearly \$25 million
- provided 11 percent fewer services than in 2013
- performed 123,226 fewer breast exams than in the previous report
- cared for 200,000 fewer patients than previous year
- 661 affiliates reported \$61.2 million in "excess revenue"
- spent \$4.6 million to "refresh our brand"
- spent \$16.7 million to "engage communities"
- spent \$39.3 million on "public policy"
- spent \$622,706 on "blowout" parties and \$14,000/day on travel

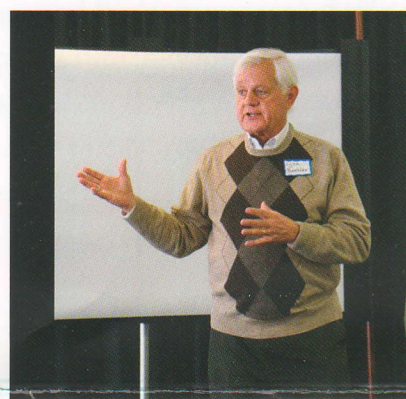
Sources: www.lifesitenews.org and www.plannedparenthood.org/files/2114/5089/0863/2014-2015_PPFA_

(Frankfort, KY)—The Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services will provide Planned Parenthood of Kentucky affiliates \$331,309 in taxpayer funding for fiscal year 2016. The money comes from the federal government, but the state acts as a pass-through agency to fund the Louisville and Lexington affiliates.

How can the Commonwealth justify continuing any relationship with an organization with blood on its hands that profits from the sale of aborted baby body parts?

They can't according to State Rep. Lynn Bechler (R-Marion). "I think the whole harvesting of baby body parts is abhorrent," Bechler said. "We're not talking about frogs or worms. We're talking about human life. I get frustrated with the amount of time we spend talking about the humane treatment of animals but neglect to discuss the humane treatment of human beings."

Bechler, the lead sponsor of House Bill 61, said the bill has been assigned to the House Health and Welfare Committee, otherwise known as the graveyard committee for pro-life legislation. "We need people across the Commonwealth to call their [state] reps to get this bill moving," Bechler said.



State Rep. Lynn Bechler presenting
at a CPC training event in 2015

ACTION: Call Frankfort now and ask your state representative to co-sponsor and support HB 61. Tell him/her that our tax dollars should not go to any agency that is involved with the destruction of innocent life.

CALL TODAY: 1-800-372-7181.

Republican Presidential Caucus to be held on Saturday, March 5



Kentucky Republicans will go to the polls on Saturday, March 5 to determine their choice for U.S. president

nearly two months earlier than in previous elections. Only registered Republicans are eligible to vote. Voting hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm local time. Most counties will have one central location, though more populous counties will have several. For more information about the caucus, visit the Republican Party of Kentucky website: www.rpk.org/caucus.

Altogether, 11 GOP Candidates filed in Ky

- Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush
- Retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson
- New Jersey Governor Chris Christie
- U.S. Senator Ted Cruz (TX)
- Former Hewlett Packard CEO Carly Fiorina
- Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee
- Ohio Governor John Kasich
- U.S. Senator Rand Paul (KY)
- U.S. Senator Marco Rubio (FL)
- Former U.S. Senator Rick Santorum (PA)
- Donald Trump

Want to help the conservative cause in Kentucky?
Then please consider a donation today.

Donate securely via our website or use this form.

www.commonwealthpolicycenter.org

Name: _____ Phone #: _____
Street Address: _____ City/St/Zip: _____
Email: _____
____ Commonwealth Policy Foundation - CPF (policy/education) *
____ Commonwealth Policy Center - CPC (political education and activism)
____ Commonwealth Policy PAC (100% political—helps elect conservatives)
Occupation/Employer: _____
Frequency: ____ One-Time ____ Monthly ____ Quarterly
Name on card: _____
Account #: _____
Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____ (3 digit code on back)
Signature: _____

Mail to: Commonwealth Policy Center / P.O. Box 5 / Herndon, KY 42236

* only gifts to CPF are tax-deductible

COMMONWEALTH POLICY CENTER
P.O. BOX 5
HERNDON, KY 42236

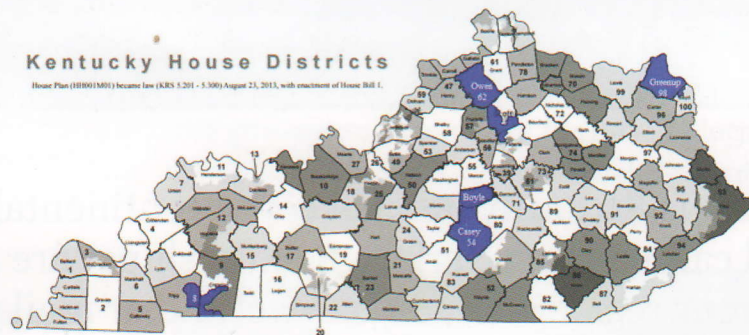
Pre-sorted Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit No. 715

Special Elections for State House seats set for March 8

Four vacancies in the Kentucky House could dramatically shift control of that chamber if Republicans win all four vacancies—a possibility within reach considering the conservative shift. The current make-up of the House is 50 Democrats and 46 Republicans.

Two Republican vacancies were created when Ryan Quarles (R-Georgetown) was elected Commissioner of Agriculture and Mike Harmon (R-Danville) elected as State Auditor. Two Democratic vacancies were created when John Tilley (D-Hopkinsville)

was appointed as Secretary of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and Tanya Pullin (D-South Shore) was appointed as an administrative law judge. Executive committees of each Party in the districts chose the following candidates to represent them in



the special election:

Dist. 8: Jeff Taylor (D) vs Walker Thomas (R)

Dist. 54: Bill Noelker (D) vs Daniel Elliott (R)

Dist. 62: Chuck Tackett (D) vs Phillip Pratt (R)

Dist. 98: Lew Nicholls (D) vs Tony Quillen (R)

Voter guides coming to Commonwealth Policy Center's website soon!