

# Senate committee advances rights restoration bill

SUBMITTED

Legislation proposing an amendment to the Kentucky Constitution that would automatically restore voting rights to certain felons was advanced last Wednesday by the Senate State and Local Government Committee.

Sen. Jimmy Higdon, R-Lebanon, and Sen. Keturah J. Herron, D-Louisville, are cosponsoring Senate Bill 80. Higdon said the bill was passed by the Senate in 2020 but was sidelined in the House that year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This year's bill – if successful in its attempt to amend the constitution – would restore voting rights to felons once they have completed a prison sentence, probation or parole. It includes exceptions for people convicted of election fraud, a violent felony offense, a felony sexual offense or criminal offense against a child.

"When a felon has served their time, served their probation period,



The Senate State and Local Government Committee last Wednesday OK'd a voting rights restoration bill at the Capitol Annex (pictured above) in Frankfort.

this bill would automatically give them their voting rights back, not their ability to hold office, but their ability to vote," Higdon said.

Herron said she has learned from Higdon that she must trust the process when dealing with legislation. Some people don't think the bill goes far enough to restore

rights, but it's a step in the right direction, she said.

"I think that this is a bill that we can get passed out of the Senate, and you know, we will do what we need to do after it moves through this process. But I fully support this version of the bill to move it along," she said.

If SB 80 is adopted into state law, the amendment to the constitution would still require ratification on the ballot from Kentucky voters.

Nicole D. Porter, senior director of advocacy for The Sentencing Project, testified in favor of restoration of rights, but said a clean approach to expanding voting rights to everyone with felony convictions is the most straightforward path.

"Voting is fundamental to expressing civic involvement and community belonging and is a pathway to public safety," she said. "The Sentencing Project supports Senate Bill 80, but we do recommend that there are amendments that bring it in line with our position."

Sen. Scott Madon, R-Pineville, said he has helped many people try to get their rights restored. He asked Higdon how clerks will know if someone can be registered or not.

Higdon said that if the proposed amendment is ratified, the general

assembly will then pass accompanying legislation to implement the process and provide ground rules for clerks and citizens.

Senate Minority Whip Cassie Chambers Armstrong, D-Louisville, said there is a pathway through expungement to get voting rights back, but it's very cumbersome and people must go through a legal process.

She asked Higdon if this is a fair characterization. He said it is, but with expungement, the right to own and carry a gun can also be restored. He also said the governor could grant a pardon to give someone back their voting rights.

Armstrong said she favors the bill.

"Thank you both for this legislation. I think this could maybe be the most consequential thing that we pass this session, or among them, because I do believe that giving folks the right to vote is so foundational to our democracy. I think it's really important work," she said.



Photo by Cody Brock

Breckinridge County senior Elizabeth Grimes looks for an open teammate in a win Monday night over Cloverport in the 11th District Tournament semifinals at Breckinridge County High School. Grimes scored 13 points.



Photo by Cody Brock

Adelynn Moorman of Breckinridge County gets past Keeleigh Poole of Cloverport Monday night in an 11th District Tournament game.

## BRECK

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eight of the matchups, including the last two. Breckinridge County won both regular-season meetings — 56-46 on the road Dec. 12 and at home Feb. 1, 52-43.

Senior Rowan Radaszewski scored 22 points, made four 3-pointers and grabbed six rebounds as the Lady Tigers dominated from start to finish against Cloverport.

Seniors Elizabeth Grimes and Raygan Henning scored 13 points apiece with both players making three 3-pointers. As a team, Breckinridge County was 14-of-32 on 3-point attempts.

The Lady Tigers, who led 26-3 after the first quarter and 54-7 at halftime, shot 52.8% for the game, making 28-of-53 shots. Breck also was 7-of-7 at the free-throw line.

Sophomore Campbell Moore led Cloverport (1-18) with eight points and made a pair of 3-pointers.

Eighth-grader Kaitlyn Carby had six assists, while senior Josie Mitcham and Henning had four each.

Jeff D'Alessio can be reached at [jdalessio@thenewsenterprise.com](mailto:jdalessio@thenewsenterprise.com).

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**COMMISSIONER'S SALE**  
MARCH 2, 2026 AT 11:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME  
OLD BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE FRONT DOOR  
208 SOUTH MAIN STREET HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY  
BRECKINRIDGE CIRCUIT COURT, DIVISION I CASE NO. 25-CI-00082  
GERARDO JAIME PLAINTIFF VS. NOTICE OF SALE ESTATE OF CATHERINE WHEATLEY, ET AL DEFENDANTS

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered December 18, 2025, the Master Commissioner will on March 2, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. or thereabouts, offer for sale the property described below. The property will be offered at public auction to the highest bidder on terms of TEN (10%) PERCENT down in the form of cash, cashier's check or certified check, and the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days, secured by a bond with sufficient surety, and bearing interest at the accruing rate of 12.00% per annum from date of sale until the purchase price is paid. A lien will be retained on the property sold until the purchase money is fully paid. Please contact the Master Commissioner's office prior to the date of sale to ensure that you have all information necessary to qualify to bid. Health and safety measures will be required.

**Property Address: 280 Wilson Wilderness Lane, Westview, Kentucky 40178**  
Parcel Identification Number: 77-5

The real estate will be appraised. The purpose of the sale is to satisfy a judgment in the amount of \$3,572.88 plus interest and costs. However, bids will not be required to meet or exceed the appraised value. The real estate has been adjudged to be indivisible and will be sold as a whole. It will be sold free of liens of all the parties hereto except for real estate taxes for 2025 and thereafter, and will be sold subject to all restrictions and easements of record.

**HERBERT M. O'REILLY**  
MASTER COMMISSIONER  
POST OFFICE BOX 539  
HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY 40143  
PHONE: (270) 756-2882



**COMMISSIONER'S SALE**  
MARCH 16 2026 AT 12:01 P.M. CENTRAL TIME  
OLD BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE FRONT DOOR  
208 SOUTH MAIN STREET HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY  
BRECKINRIDGE CIRCUIT COURT, DIVISION I CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00290

WILSON A TAPP, PLAINTIFF VS. WESLEY W RUSSELL, ET AL DEFENDANTS

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered January 21, 2026, the Master Commissioner will on March 16, 2026 at 12:01 p.m. or thereabouts, offer for sale the property described below. The property will be offered at public auction to the highest bidder on terms of TEN (10%) PERCENT down in the form of cash, cashier's check or certified check, and the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days, secured by a bond with sufficient surety, and bearing interest at the accruing rate of 12.00% per annum from date of sale until the purchase price is paid. A lien will be retained on the property sold until the purchase money is fully paid. Please contact the Master Commissioner's office prior to the date of sale to ensure that you have all information necessary to qualify to bid. Health and safety measures will be required.

**Property Address: 1200 Lake of the Woods Loop Hardinsburg, KY 40143**  
Parcel Identification Number: LWA 56

The real estate will be appraised. The purpose of the sale is to satisfy a judgment in the amount of \$2,495.76 plus interest and costs. However, bids will not be required to meet or exceed the appraised value. The real estate has been adjudged to be indivisible and will be sold as a whole. It will be sold free of liens of all the parties hereto except for real estate taxes for 2025 and thereafter, and will be sold subject to all restrictions and easements of record.

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**COMMISSIONER'S SALE**  
MARCH 16, 2026 AT 11:00 AM. CENTRAL TIME  
OLD BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE FRONT DOOR  
208 SOUTH MAIN STREET HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY  
BRECKINRIDGE CIRCUIT COURT, DIVISION I CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00202  
MORTGAGE RESEARCH CENTER, LLC ET AL PLAINTIFF VS. RODNEY KEATON, ET AL DEFENDANTS

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered January 28, 2026 and by Order to Clarify Date of Sale entered February 5, 2026, the Master Commissioner will on March 16, 2026, at 11:00 am or thereabouts, offer for sale the property described below. The property will be offered at public auction to the highest bidder on terms of TEN (10%) PERCENT down in the form of cash, cashier's check or certified check, and the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days, secured by a bond with sufficient surety, and bearing interest at the accruing rate of 7.1250% per annum from date of sale until the purchase price is paid. A lien will be retained on the property sold until the purchase money is fully paid. Please contact the Master Commissioner's office prior to the date of sale to ensure that you have all information necessary to qualify to bid. Health and safety measures will be required.

**Property Address: 2427 E Highway 60, Harned, Kentucky 40144**  
Parcel Identification Number: HA 2-3

The real estate will be appraised. The purpose of the sale is to satisfy a judgment in the amount of \$159,987.96 plus interest and costs. However, bids will not be required to meet or exceed the appraised value. The real estate has been adjudged to be indivisible and will be sold as a whole. It will be sold free of liens of all the parties hereto except for real estate taxes for 2025 and thereafter, and will be sold subject to all restrictions and easements of record.

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**COMMISSIONER'S SALE**  
MARCH 9, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME  
OLD BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE FRONT DOOR  
208 SOUTH MAIN STREET HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY

MIDFIRST BANK PLAINTIFF VS. TYLER THOMPSON WASHBURN, ET AL DEFENDANTS  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered January 22, 2026, the Master Commissioner will on March 9, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. or thereabouts, offer for sale the property described below. The property will be offered at public auction to the highest bidder on terms of TEN (10%) PERCENT down in the form of cash, cashier's check or certified check, and the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days, secured by a bond with sufficient surety, and bearing interest at the accruing rate of 7.25% per annum from date of sale until the purchase price is paid. A lien will be retained on the property sold until the purchase money is fully paid. Please contact the Master Commissioner's office prior to the date of sale to ensure that you have all information necessary to qualify to bid. Health and safety measures will be required.

**Property Address: 200 Oak Street, Cloverport, KY 40111**  
Parcel Identification Number: CP 1-15-1  
Included is a manufactured home, 1999 Cavalier Homes model 536AB, VIN: ALCA0399560S47293, which has been converted to real estate.  
The real estate will be appraised. The purpose of the sale is to satisfy a judgment in the amount of \$113,936.19 plus interest and costs. However, bids will not be required to meet or exceed the appraised value. The real estate has been adjudged to be indivisible and will be sold as a whole. It will be sold free of liens of all the parties hereto except for real estate taxes for 2026 and thereafter, and will be sold subject to all restrictions and easements of record.

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**COMMISSIONER'S SALE**  
MARCH 16, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME  
OLD BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE FRONT DOOR  
208 SOUTH MAIN STREET HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY  
BRECKINRIDGE CIRCUIT COURT, DIVISION I CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00186  
WILLIAM L. WEATHERHOLT PLAINTIFF VS.

UNKNOWN heirs, devisees, personal representatives, and assigns of HERMAN CRAVENS, and UNKNOWN heirs, devisees, personal representatives, and assigns of JANIE L. CRAVENS, and COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, COUNTY OF BRECKINRIDGE, and COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, CITY OF CLOVERPORT DEFENDANTS

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered November 20, 2025 and Order Setting Sale Date entered February 4, 2026, the Master Commissioner will on March 16, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. or thereabouts, offer for sale the property described below. The property will be offered at public auction to the highest bidder on terms of TEN (10%) PERCENT down in the form of cash, cashier's check or certified check, and the balance on a credit of thirty (30) days, secured by a bond with sufficient surety, and bearing interest at the accruing rate of 12.00% per annum from date of sale until the purchase price is paid. A lien will be retained on the property sold until the purchase money is fully paid. Please contact the Master Commissioner's office prior to the date of sale to ensure that you have all information necessary to qualify to bid. Health and safety measures will be required.

**Property Address: 15 West Front Street, Cloverport, Kentucky 40111**  
Parcel Identification Number: CP 1-23-16A

The real estate will be appraised. The purpose of the sale is to satisfy a judgment in the amount of \$2,645.08 plus interest and costs. However, bids will not be required to meet or exceed the appraised value. The real estate has been adjudged to be indivisible and will be sold as a whole. It will be sold free of liens of all the parties hereto except for real estate taxes for 2025 and thereafter, and will be sold subject to all restrictions and easements of record.

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208 SOUTH MAIN STREET HARDINSBURG, KENTUCKY  
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