

Legislative Update

Senator Robin L. Webb

Frankfort was once again brimming with energy in the third legislative week as advocates, stakeholders, and organizations filled the halls of the Capitol, making their voices heard on the pressing issues that shape Kentucky's future. I was pleased to welcome many familiar faces, including physician assistants, county officials from my district and across the commonwealth, and strong representation from our labor unions at the Working Families event. Additionally, members of the Kentucky Coal Association and the Kentucky Oil and Gas Association were present to advocate for industries that remain vital to our economy and workforce. It's always a privilege to hear directly from those on the ground, whose input is invaluable in shaping sound public policy.

With a packed agenda of committee meetings, legislative debates, and decisive action, the 2025 General Assembly is moving full speed ahead.

The third legislative week began in a setting steeped in history as the legislature convened in the Old State Capitol in downtown Frankfort. The walls of this National Historic Landmark, which served as Kentucky's seat of government

from 1830 to 1910, have borne witness to pivotal moments in our commonwealth's history. Holding proceedings in this space was more than a symbolic change of venue – it was a powerful reminder of our duty to build on the foundations laid by those who came before us.

Against this backdrop, the Senate passed Senate Bill 313, which officially designates June as Kentucky History Month. The measure also recognizes several key observances, including National Agriculture Month, National Beef Month, National Soybean Month, National FFA Week, and National 4-H Week, all of which hold deep significance for Kentucky's rich agricultural tradition and rural communities.

One of the most meaningful aspects of my work is carrying legislation that directly benefits the people of Kentucky. I recently had the opportunity to present Senate Bill 69 before the Senate Agriculture Committee, where it received strong support and passed out of committee.

Senate Bill 69 is a much-needed measure to modernize Kentucky's animal health regulations by establishing proper licensing and oversight for non-veterinarian providers and animal

chiropractors. They are professionals who play a crucial role in maintaining the health and well-being of our livestock and horses. Kentucky's equine industry is second to none, and ensuring that those who provide these specialized services meet rigorous training and certification standards is critical for both animal welfare and consumer protection.

Beyond establishing licensing, Senate Bill 69 also creates an advisory board to guide policy in this area to ensure that evolving industry practices are met with informed regulation. Additionally, the bill strengthens record-keeping requirements to enhance transparency and accountability in animal health care. With the strong bipartisan support this measure has received, I am optimistic about its path forward.

A key public safety measure that passed the was Senate Bill 73, which criminalizes sexual extortion, or "sextortion," as a felony offense. The bill addresses the growing issue of individuals using sexually explicit images to coerce victims into compliance, often for financial gain, further exploitation, or other demands.

Senate Bill 73 not only increases penalties for perpetrators but also makes it

easier for victims to seek civil damages. This legislation is an important step in ensuring that law enforcement has the necessary tools to prosecute offenders and that survivors have avenues for justice. The measure passed the Senate unanimously and now heads to the House.

In addition to these measures, the Senate advanced several other bills.

Senate Bill 59 allows religious institutions to develop affordable housing on their property without additional zoning approvals, provided the land was owned before Jan. 1, 2025. I voted in favor, and the measure passed 34 to 3.

Senate Bill 76 revises construction contract laws by increasing payment protections for contractors and preventing certain unfair provisions in agreements. This measure passed unanimously.

Senate Bill 26 ensures that disability alone cannot be grounds for denying adoption, child placement, or parental rights. I supported this measure, which received unanimous approval.

Senate Bill 61 establishes new safety requirements for public and private pools, including lifeguard mandates and emergency shut-off switches. It passed with

unanimous consent.

Senate Bill 64 strengthens trespassing and criminal mischief laws related to critical infrastructure, imposing stricter penalties for unauthorized access, drone surveillance, and facility damage. I voted yes, and the bill passed overwhelmingly.

Senate Bill 14 prohibits pharmaceutical manufacturers from discriminating against 340B covered entities by refusing to provide discounted drug pricing in Kentucky if they offer the same discounts in other states. I voted in support of the measure, which passed 32 to 5.

Senate Bill 85 establishes a deputy auditor position and creates the Commonwealth Office of the Ombudsman within the Auditor's office. I supported the bill, which passed 33 to 4, but I do have concerns about placing the Ombudsman's office under the Auditor and potentially compromising its independent autonomy. I am hopeful this will be addressed in the House.

Senate Bill 89 redefines Kentucky's definition of "waters of the commonwealth" to align with the federal "navigable waters" standard. I support efforts to reduce unnecessary regulations on our energy indus-

try, which is vital to our region's economy. However, I do have concerns about the impact this bill may have on groundwater. We must ensure our communities continue to have access to clean and reliable water, and I look forward to working with colleagues in the House to address these concerns. It passed 30-5.

As we pass the one-third mark of this 30-day session, the pace is only intensifying. Tuesday, February 18, marks the filing deadline for new legislation, and the coming weeks will see critical discussions on budgetary matters, policy reforms, and other high-impact proposals.

I encourage you to stay engaged in the legislative process – your voice matters. Whether you're advocating for your community, your profession, or an issue close to your heart, your input helps shape the decisions that impact us all. Please reach out to share your thoughts and perspectives. I can be contacted by email at SD18@cm.kylegislature.gov or through the General Assembly Message Line at 1-800-372-7181. Kentuckians with hearing loss can use Kentucky Relay by dialing 711.

For more information or high-resolution photos, visit www.legislature.ky.gov.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife celebrates 2024 accomplishments

By Lisa Jackson

When someone buys a fishing or hunting license, registers their boat in Kentucky or purchases an annual Kentucky Wild membership, they're making an important

985 acres through conservation easements and land acquisitions via the Stream and Wetland Restoration Program to provide wildlife habitat and environmental benefits.

million fish in Kentucky waters to sustain and enhance public fishing opportunities and restore native species.

- Enhanced fish habitats across the state:
 - Added a third habitat improvement barge.
 - Recycled more than 4,000 Christmas trees donated by Kentuckians to create and deploy fish cover structures in public lakes.
 - Planted 1,350 bald cypress trees on Lake Barkley with help from partner groups and more than 100 individual volunteers.

Completed Capital Projects in Local Communities

- Replaced the boat ramp on the Salt River at West Point in Hardin County with a new two-lane ramp and parking for 30 vehicles with trailers.
- Built a one-lane ramp on Hinkston Creek in Bourbon County with parking for 15 vehicles with trailers.
- Installed an aluminum courtesy dock on the Little Sandy River in Greenup County.
- Added a new well and pump to flood more than 40 acres at the Sloughs Wildlife Management Area in Henderson County to improve waterfowl habitat.
- New Programs and Innovations
- Redesigned the Trophy Fish and Master Angler Awards programs to offer

free printable certificates, patches and stickers for anglers who catch qualifying fish in Kentucky waters.

- Expanded the Experimental Commercial Fishing Methods Program to increase the harvest of invasive carp, codifying it in regulations and adding three commercial fishers.
- Looking Ahead to 2025
- Partnering with county governments to plan up-

grades at boating access sites, including Lake Linville, South Fork Licking River and Green River. Improvements will include extended ramps, new parking and sediment control features, with construction scheduled for this year.

- Further expanding public access for fishing, hunting and other wildlife-related recreation.
- Continuing large-scale

fish and wildlife habitat improvements statewide to sustain populations and improve recreational opportunities.

Every dollar spent helps to conserve Kentucky's fish and wildlife resources, supports the economy, and enhances outdoor recreation opportunities. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife is proud to continue serving people and conserving fish and wildlife in the commonwealth.



investment in conservation across the state.

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources uses the money from these sources to conserve, protect and enhance fish and wildlife resources throughout Kentucky, from Fulton County in the west to Pike County in the east and everywhere in between.

The department also works to provide outstanding opportunities for wildlife-related outdoor activities, including hunting, fishing, trapping, boating, shooting sports and wildlife viewing. These activities contribute an estimated \$8.7 billion annually to Kentucky's economy.

Customer investments in Kentucky Fish and Wildlife in 2024 made the following selected accomplishments possible:

Expanded Public Access and Improved Wildlife Habitats

- Opened more than 73,000 acres for public recreation by working with landowners to establish public access agreements and by purchasing land.
- Conducted prescribed burns on more than 9,400 acres to improve wildlife habitats and manage invasive species; and provided training for staff, partners and landowners in safe burning practices.
- Permanently protected

Educated and Inspired the Public

- Hosted more than 40,000 visitors, including approximately 11,000 school group participants, at the Salato Wildlife Education Center.
- Developed and opened the new "Healthy Hunting Grounds" exhibit at Salato, highlighting the importance of legal, regulated hunting and thriving habitats.
- Enhanced Fishing Opportunities and Aquatic Habitats
- Stocked more than 4.5

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Court of Justice
Lewis CIRCUIT COURT
Civil Action No. 13-CI-00157

U.S. BANK AS CUSTODIAN FOR SASS MUNI V DTR,
ASSUMED NAME FOR SASS MUNI V DTR, LLC, N/K/A MUNI V, LLC
PLAINTIFF

and
MELISSA CLARK, ET AL. DEFENDANTS

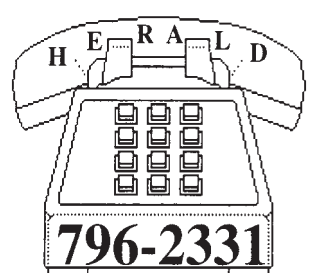
NOTICE OF MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale entered in the Lewis Circuit Court on January 24, 2025, to raise the sum of \$8,750.99, plus interest, fees and costs, I will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder, at the Lewis County Courthouse, 112 Second Street, Vanceburg, Kentucky, 41179, on Thursday, February 27, 2025, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., the following property:

A tract of land located at 60 Howey Lane, Garrison, KY 41141, and identified as Lewis Co. P.V.A. Parcel No.: 120-00-00-037.02. The land is more particularly described in the record of this action located in the office of the Lewis Circuit Court Clerk, where it can be reviewed upon request.

Terms of the sale are as follows: (A) At the time of sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. In the event the successful bidder elects to credit the balance, said bidder shall post bond with surety acceptable to the Master Commissioner and pre-approved by the Master Commissioner at least by noon, two (2) business days before the sale date, as security for the unpaid purchase price, bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the date of the sale. The surety must be present at the purchase price; (B) The purchaser shall assume and pay all taxes and assessments for the current fiscal year. (C) All other delinquent taxes and assessments for previous years shall be paid from the sale proceeds if properly claimed in writing and filed of record by the purchaser within ten (10) days from the date of sale; (D) If a successful bid is less than two-thirds of the appraised value, the defendant shall retain a right of redemption for six months from the date of sale; the purchaser shall receive an immediate writ of possession and a deed containing a lien in favor of the defendant reflecting the defendant's right of redemption. KRS 426.530; (E) The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, excepting easements and restrictions of record in the Lewis County Clerk's Office, and such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the Defendant(s); (F) For more particulars, reference is made to the records of the Lewis Circuit Clerk; (G) Bidders are advised to obtain a title examination; (H) Exceptions must be filed not later than ten (10) days following the filing of the Commissioner's Report of Sale; (I) Risk of loss for the subject property shall pass to the purchaser on the date of sale, and possession of the premises shall pass to the purchaser upon payment of the purchase price and delivery of deed.

CLAYTON G. LYKINS, JR., MASTER COMMISSIONER
94 SECOND STREET, VANCEBURG, KY 41179
TELEPHONE: 606-796-2531 6-8c



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