

Item on Kentucky ballots would limit governor pardons

BY TAYLOR SIX
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

An upcoming amendment on the general election ballot could limit when Kentucky's governor is able to pardon people convicted of crimes.

Voters will see a constitutional amendment on the Nov. 3 ballot that would prevent the state's governor from issuing pardons for roughly three months — 60 days before an election and five weeks after.

State Sen. Chris McDaniel, R-Hyland Heights, says he proposed the amendment after controversial pardons from previous Republican Gov. Matt Bevin, though those

occurred several years ago. A pardon is an act of official forgiveness for an offense that can only be granted by the governor.

In 2019, after Bevin lost his election to current Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear, he granted clemency to hundreds of people. Most of them were convicted of low-level offenses, but the list included high-profile cases that dismissed the charges of murderers and child rapists.

One of which was Patrick Brian Baker, who had served two years of a 19-year sentence for a fatal home invasion in Knox County.

McDaniel said if approved by the voters,

the amendment would hold officials accountable around election time, and the measure wouldn't leave powers solely with the governor.

The proposed amendment would impose an election-period restriction to the Kentucky Constitution to avoid late-hour pardons.

In an interview, McDaniel said the amendment would hold a governor more accountable before and after the election.

"It's to keep somebody from being able to issue pardons when there's no accountability at all, right?" McDaniel said. "After the voters have made their decision, there's no

accountability left."

"The portion beforehand is for the same reason, but a different mechanism to introduce accountability," McDaniel continued. "So, 60 days is enough time that if a governor issues a pardon, between the news media, local communities, the justice system as a whole, the word can get out there, and the governor or their party has to stand in front of the voters, which, for politicians, there's no greater level of accountability than in the ballot box."

If approved by the voters, the amendment's change would take effect ahead of the 2027 gubernatorial election.

The window of pardon

restrictions for that election would begin Sept. 3, 2027.

The amendment does not limit the governor's ability to issue pardons, McDaniel said, just the time frame.

The approval of the amendment would not require an additional board to be established or create further hurdles for voters or lawmakers to jump through after the fact, McDaniel said.

McDaniel said the change of any person's conviction should not solely lie with the governor as it currently does. The timeframe gives accountability to the voters while not changing the governor's Constitutional

powers to issue pardons.

"The pardon is the only thing that touches the system of justice, where there's no check and no balance whatsoever," McDaniel said. "It is an absolute power, and so the system allows for new evidence to have emerged and changes to be made."

McDaniel said this amendment change is not designed with the current governor in mind.

"This isn't about the governor. This is about a governor; any governor," McDaniel said. "This is about you know the frailties of human beings in addressing those and making our system better."

CARROLL ELECTION

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 3 and the following offices, candidates and issues are on the various ballots in Carroll County:

U.S. Senate
Andy Barr-R
Charles Booker-D
Christopher Campbell-Kentucky Party
U.S. Representative
Fourth District
Ed Gallrein-R
Melissa Claire Strange-D
Jeremy Todd-L
State Senate
20th District
Gex "Jay" Williams-R
Stella R. Pollard-D
State Representative
47th District
Felicia Rabourn-R

Carroll County
Property Valuation
Administrator
Rob Robertson-R
County Judge-Executive
Ruby Tucker-R
Write-in
County Attorney
Nicholas A. Marsh-R
County Clerk
Danielle Maiden Kinman-R
Sheriff
Ryan T. Gosser-R
Jailer
Daniel Rose-R
Coroner
Brent Stucker-R
County Surveyor
Write-in
Magistrate
First District
Lance Maiden-R
John Proctor-D
Constable
District 1
Aaron Duane Marsh-D
Magistrate
District 2
Clay Cable-R
Constable
District 2
Write-in
Magistrate
District 3
Jennifer Beach-R
Keifer McIntyre-D
Constable
District 3

James Fox-R

District Judge
15th Judicial District
First Division
Enguerrand Meyrat
Josh M. Smith
District Judge
15th Judicial District
Second Division
Amy C. Burke
Carroll Board of Education
Fourth District
Rachel Cable
Carolyn Breeck Jones
Fifth District
Gwen Wright Chapman
Tanya May Faulkner

Mayor of Carrollton
Danny L. Maiden
Robb W. Adams
Carrollton Council
(Vote up to 6)
Diedra Hays
Douglas Hill
Ed Hill
Cristina Marsh
Jeffrey Dickow
Linda Jo Davis
John T. Booth

Mayor of Ghent
Andy Mefford
James "Jimmy" Lewellyn
Ghent Commission
(Vote up to 4)
Jason Willis
Matthew Brawner
Larry Willis
Lacy Brawner

Mayor of Prestonville
Chris Moore
Prestonville Commission
(Vote up to 4)
Linda Clark
Mandy Barnes
James W. Burgin
Louie Spencer
Mayor of Sanders
Jack Ogden Jr.

Sanders Commission
(Vote up to 4)
Harold Ozzie Wright
Timothy Ray North
Tina Lynch
Bobby Abercrombie

Worthville Mayor
Ricky W. Hearn
Worthville Commission
(Vote up to 4)
Laura Pelston
Bill Bolton
Teresa Cloyd
Write-in

Constitutional Amendment 1
Are you in favor of limiting a Governor's ability to grant pardons or commute sentences by prohibiting him or her from granting pardons or commuting sentences during the time period beginning 60 days prior to the general election at which the Governor is elected, and ending when the Governor is sworn in for that term by amending the Constitution of Kentucky as stated below?

It is proposed that Section 77 of the Constitution of Kentucky be amended to read as follows:

(1) The Governor shall have power to:

(a) Remit fines and forfeitures; and

(b) Commute sentences and grant reprieves and pardons, except:

1. In case of impeachment; or

2. For the period beginning sixty days prior to the date of the gubernatorial election and ending the fifth Tuesday succeeding the election.

(2) The Governor shall file with each application therefor a statement of the reasons for his or her decision thereon, which application and statement shall always be open to public inspection.

(3) In cases of treason, the Governor shall have power to grant reprieves until the end of the next session of the General Assembly, in which the power of pardoning shall be vested; but he or she shall have no power to remit the fees of the Clerk, Sheriff or Commonwealth's Attorney in penal or criminal cases.

YES
NO

TRIMBLE ELECTION

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 3 and the following offices, candidates and issues are on the various ballots in Trimble County:

U.S. Senate
Andy Barr-R
Charles Booker-D
Christopher Campbell-Kentucky Party
U.S. Representative
Fourth District
Ed Gallrein-R
Melissa Claire Strange-D
Jeremy Todd-L
State Senate
Sixth District
Lindsey Tichenor-R
Christian Furman-D
State Representative
47th District
Felicia Rabourn-R

Trimble County
Property Valuation
Administrator
Jill Hudson Mahoney-R
County Judge-Executive
John D. Ogburn Jr.-R
Kenny Green-D
County Attorney
Crystal L. Heinz-R
County Clerk
Sarah A. Cull-R
Sheriff
Lonnie Gullion-R
Bob G. Temple-D
Jailer
Will McCoy-R
Travis Webster-D
Coroner
Samantha "Sam" Kimbler-R
County Surveyor
Write-in
Magistrate
First District
Justin Ost-R
Chris Liter-D
Constable
District 1
Chris Wright-R
Magistrate
District 2
Matt Gossom-R
Constable
District 2
Travis Price-D
Magistrate
District 3
J.D. Jones-R
Constable
District 3
Write-in
Magistrate
District 4
Crystal Whitice-R
Jason L. Smith-D
Constable
District 4
Write-in

District Judge
12th Judicial District
First Division
Daniel Fendley
District Judge
12th Judicial District
Second Division

Jessica N. Beard

Soil & Water Conservation
District Supervisors
(Vote up to 3)
Write-in

Trimble Board of Education
1st District
Amanda J. Wright
Karly A. Code
Second District
Angela Anderson
Third District
Allie Wright
Fourth District
Kim Perkinson

Mayor of Bedford
Joe Robinson
Bedford Commission
(Vote up to 4)
Tony Lemberger
Hilda S. Parrish
Angie Robinson
Write-in

Mayor of Milton
Troy E. Alexander
Milton Commission
(Vote up to 4)
Leah R. Carson
Denny C.Jackson
Rick Cull
Lynn Jones Comeaux

Constitutional Amendment 1
Are you in favor of limiting a Governor's ability to grant pardons or commute sentences by prohibiting him or her from granting pardons or commuting sentences during the time period beginning 60

days prior to the general election at which the Governor is elected, and ending when the Governor is sworn in for that term by amending the Constitution of Kentucky as stated below?

It is proposed that Section 77 of the Constitution of Kentucky be amended to read as follows:

(1) The Governor shall have power to:

(a) Remit fines and forfeitures; and

(b) Commute sentences and grant reprieves and pardons, except:

1. In case of impeachment; or

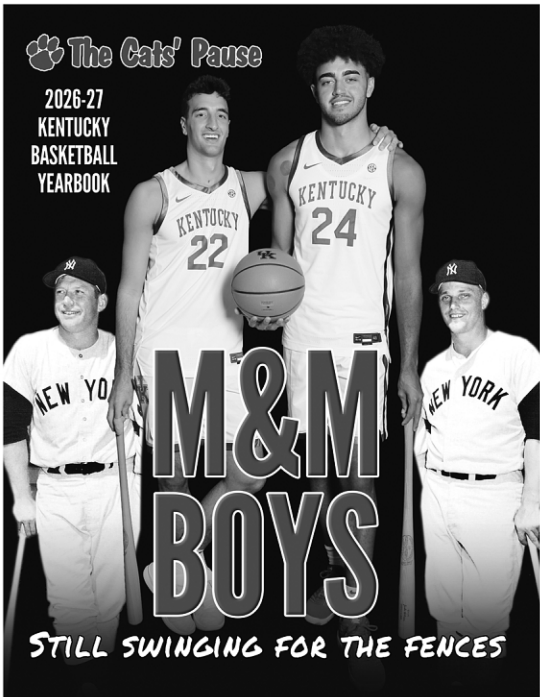
2. For the period beginning sixty days prior to the date of the gubernatorial election and ending the fifth Tuesday succeeding the election.

(2) The Governor shall file with each application therefor a statement of the reasons for his or her decision thereon, which application and statement shall always be open to public inspection.

(3) In cases of treason, the Governor shall have power to grant reprieves until the end of the next session of the General Assembly, in which the power of pardoning shall be vested; but he or she shall have no power to remit the fees of the Clerk, Sheriff or Commonwealth's Attorney in penal or criminal cases.

YES
NO

2026-27 KENTUCKY BASKETBALL YEARBOOK



Excitement has never been higher for a new Kentucky basketball season and The Cats' Pause is here to get the party started with our 47th annual Kentucky Basketball Yearbook! Inside you will find:

- **Moreno's return to Kentucky**
- **Momcilovic, a "relationship guy"**
- **Brotherly Love, Hawthorne boys**
- **Profiles of all 14 UK players**
- **Previewing 16-team SEC race**
- **Previewing non-conference slate**
- **Recruiting next generation of Cats**
- **State Schools season preview**
- **Boys High School preview**
- **Girls High School preview**
- **Extensive Q&A with Kenny Brooks**
- **Women's basketball player profiles**

ORDER TODAY by visiting
SHOPCatsPause.com

or telephone 800.641.3302 or scan the QR code



\$17.95+ \$8 priority mail delivery

LOCAL VOTING PLACES

Voting on Tuesday, Nov. 3, will take place from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Voters may cast their votes at any site in their respective county. The poll sites are:

Sanders Fire Department
38 Main Street
Sanders

TRIMBLE COUNTY
Bedford Elementary School
204 Mt. Pleasant Road
Bedford

Milton Elementary School
9245 Highway 421 North
Milton

MILTON

FROM PAGE A1

& Rescue for the future."

Milton Fire and Rescue is currently seeking new members. No prior experience is

necessary as the department provides the training and support needed to become a firefighter. it's an opportunity to serve the community, learn new skills, make a difference, and become part of the Milton Fire & Rescue family.

TRIMBLE

FROM PAGE A4

terroristic threatening third degree, menacing. Next appearance Nov. 24.

SHOW CAUSE HEARINGS

John A. Hughes, 1968. Amount due \$413. No/expired KY registration receipt (dismissed), no/expired registration plates (dismissed), failure to produce insurance card, failure of owner to maintain required insurance/security first (FTA eligible) (amend), (guilty), driving too slow for traffic conditions (dismissed), operating on suspended/revoked operator's license (FTA eligible)

(dismissed), failure to register transfer of motor vehicle (dismissed). FTA. Bench warrant. Ethan I. McClellan, 1997. Amount due \$163. Assault fourth degree domestic violence no visible injury (dismissed), criminal mischief second degree (dismissed), endangering the welfare of a minor (guilty), no operator's/moped license (FTA eligible) (guilty). FTA/DOT. Bench warrant. Marcus T. Phillips, 1991. Amount due \$25. Failure to wear seatbelts (FTA eligible) (guilty), license to be in possession (FTA eligible) (dismissed). Paid. George Sullivan, 1980. Amount due \$25. Failure to wear seatbelts (FTA eligible) (guilty), license to be in possession (FTA eligible) (dismissed), failure to produce insurance card (dismissed). Paid.

EMPLOYMENT

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF CARROLLTON SEEKS A DEPUTY DIRECTOR.

The Deputy Director would assist the Executive Director in the Management of all Housing Authority activities as outlined by the Board of Commissioners, State and Federal Legislation, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. The Deputy Director ensures completion of maintenance of all HAC owned property; supervises HAC employees; planning and management of the HAC as directed by the Executive Director.

Requirements include a minimum of an associate's degree and/or experience of 3 years of administration in the public sector. Knowledge of applicable federal, state and local laws, as well as rules and regulations regarding the administration of federally assisted housing programs.

TO APPLY: SEND A LETTER OF INTEREST WITH A DETAILED RESUME TO ADDRESS BELOW BY NOVEMBER 6, 2026. THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF CARROLLTON, 1201 9TH STREET, P.O. BOX 305, CARROLLTON, KY. 41008.

ATTENTION: PATRICIA BAKER, DIRECTOR
502-732-4330



LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of PHA CAPITAL FUND 5-Year Plan

The Housing Authority of Carrollton (HAC) will hold a public hearing at noon on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, regarding the 2027-2031 Capital Fund Program (CFP) 5-Year Plan. The public hearing will be held at noon at the Housing Authority's main office, 1201 9TH STREET, Carrollton, KY 41008. The hearing will act as a forum for public comments relevant to HAC's CFP 5-Year Agency Plan as required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Comments shall be made via email to pbaker@carrollton-housing.org before 8:00 a.m. November 10, 2026. Only written comments will be considered. The CFP 5 Year Plan changes will be available for review by request. Mailed comments should be sent to: Housing Authority of Carrollton
Attn: Pat Baker
Re: Public Hearing comments
CFP Plan 2027-2031
1201 9th Street
Carrollton, KY 41008
If any further information is needed, contact the Housing Authority of Carrollton at (502)732-4330.