



March 16, 2026

Via Electronic Mail

Kentucky General Assembly
702 Capital Avenue
Annex
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Re: Kentucky Business Owners Supporting Pre-K for All

Dear Senators and Representatives:

As business owners from across the Commonwealth, we urge you to support the Pre-K for All initiative. It would expand Kentucky's voluntary publicly-funded preschool program, so that every Kentucky four year old has a strong start, and parents have an opportunity to rejoin the workforce.

Running businesses, we know firsthand how critical child care is to increasing workforce participation. We also know Pre-K will help children succeed, save families money, boost our local economies, and be a major investment in Kentucky's long-term competitiveness.

American families are struggling to pay the bills and lack of childcare is a major reason why. Pre-K for All can help ease the financial burden and boost household earnings by nearly \$9,000 dollars each year for at least six years. That's \$54,000 more dollars in a family's pocket, cycling through our local economies, making it easier for businesses like ours to hire and retain employees, grow operations, and compete.

Pre-K for All is not just an education policy - it's an economic development investment that will grow Kentucky's workforce. When parents have access to affordable Pre-K, they can work. When kids arrive at school ready to learn, they are more likely to be prepared for a career and succeed in life. When families' earnings increase by nearly \$9,000 dollars, they have more money to spend locally at businesses like ours.

Here's what the data tells us:

- **Improves Kindergarten Readiness:** 53.8% of Kentucky children begin kindergarten already behind. Pre-K for All helps close this gap, giving all kids a better start and reducing the need for costly interventions later.
- **Increases Workforce Participation:** By as many as 70,000 Kentuckians because they lack childcare. Pre-K for All would help bring tens of thousands of workers back into the workforce - people our businesses need.
- **Raises Household Incomes:** Families with access to Pre-K saw earnings increase by an average of nearly **\$9,000 per year** - with sustained gains for at least six years. That's

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\$54,000 more dollars in a family's pocket, cycling through our local economies, creating and maintaining jobs, and helping to grow businesses.

- **Saves Families Money:** With childcare costing nearly **\$7,000 per year**, Pre-K for All would provide much needed financial relief for working parents and increase their spending power in our local economies.
- **Delivers a 10:1 Return on Investment:** For every dollar invested in Pre-K, Kentucky stands to gain **ten dollars** in long-term benefits - through higher earnings, better health outcomes, increased educational attainment, and lower public costs.
- **Creates New Jobs:** Pre-K for All would create jobs for educators and support staff, meaning new opportunities in communities across Kentucky.
- **Supports Rural Economies:** With 79 of Kentucky's 120 counties having little to no childcare available Pre-K for All would expand access, create jobs, attract young families, and help revitalize local economies.

As business leaders, we are committed to building a strong workforce. Pre-K for All will help us attract and retain talent, improve productivity, and build a more competitive workforce for the future.

Our families and Kentucky's economy cannot wait. We urge the General Assembly to make voluntary Pre-K for all four-year-olds a priority in the 2026 Budget Session. Kentucky cannot afford to fall further behind. We have an opportunity now to make an investment that gives children a great start, supports working families, and increases workforce participation.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue. We stand ready to support this effort and work together for a stronger Kentucky.

Respectfully,

The Undersigned Businesses of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

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Appalachian Regional Healthcare



Epic



GE Appliances



Gray, Inc.



Humana



Lakeshore Learning



Marathon Petroleum



St. Elizabeth Healthcare



St. Elizabeth Healthcare



Uber



Ascend Elements



American Wood Fibers



Bakery Express Midwest



Binti



Flagship Communities



Flavorman



Francis Energy



Freudenberg Filtration Technologies,



Grissan Renewable Energy



Kitchen Food Company



Kruger Packaging



LDG Development



LION Apparel



Lotte Aluminum Materials USA



LSS Holdings



Metalsa



MMY US



Mubea



North American Stainless



Osmundson Mfg. Co.



Priority Roofing and Restoration



Safran



Stellar Snacks



Strober Drives, Inc. (USA)



Sumitomo Electric Wiring Systems



Sunrise USA



Tri-Arrows Aluminum Inc.



V-Soft Consulting



Welding Alloys, USA



Wieland



Yamakin



21C Museum Hotel Lexington



21c Museum Hotel Louisville



Abrapower



ADEM Technologies Inc



AdVice Media



Apex Realty Group



Aquatic Access



Bay Horse Innovations



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Birtley Industrial Equipment



Bryant Law Center



CamCo Chemical



C-Forward



Connetic Venture Capital



Continental Refining



Court Street USA



C.R. Lewis Insurance



CurrentHR



Durham

Durham

EBM Inc.



EM Ford



Fessler, Schneider & Grimme



Hampton Inn & Suites Newport



Holly Hill & Co. Restaurant Group



IT Supply Solutions



James Pepper Distilling



Lebanon Oak Flooring Company



McConnell Insurance



McGhee Engineering



Med Center Health



Menzner Hardwoods



MISA Metal Fabricating



MurtCo



New Frontier



New Riff Distilling



OneCore Ventures



Orb Technologies



Piccoli Horses



Pickett Brass & Blackburn Trumpets



Pikeville Medical Center



Pin Oak Stud



Playtopia



Ruggles Sign



Space Tango



Steinhauser Printing



The Burl



#TagSwag



TJ Sampson Community Hospital



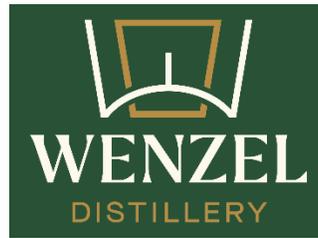
Trifecta Real Estate Services



Vowels Law PLC



Wenzel Distillery



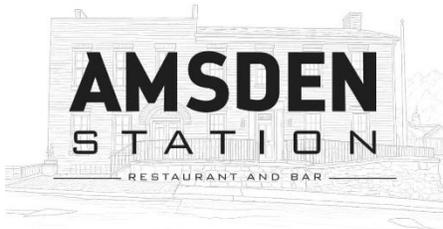
A Cup of Common Wealth



Adam's Auto Sales



Amsden Station



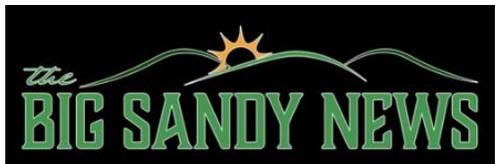
Atkinson Florist



Baker Family Chiropractic



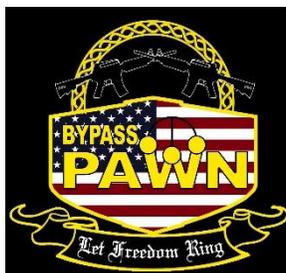
Big Sandy News



Brooklyn Belle Market



Bypass Pawn



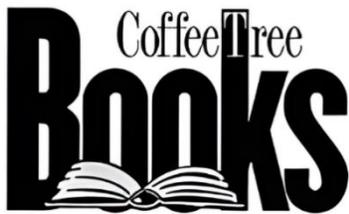
Champion Auto Mart



Cleves & Lonnemann Jewelers



Coffee Tree Books



Doc Lane's Vet Pharmacy



Engine House Coffee



Etcetera Coffeehouse



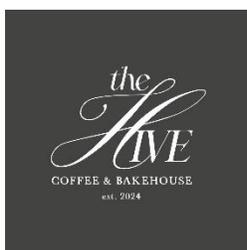
Fuzzy Duck Coffee Shop



Hi Tech Signs & Graphics



Hive Coffee & Bakehouse



Holbrook Drug Co



Hot Rod's Pizza



JCA Auto Sales



Kentucky Botanical Co.



Kentucky Coffeetree Cafe



Lifeline Recovery Center



Major Brands



Major Brands



MG Coaching and Consulting



Moonshine University



Niagara Soap Company



Pretty Decent



Print my Threads



Prost Tavern



Rice's Pharmacy



Riley Renee's



Salyersville Independent



Shirt Gallery



The Freight House



The Yoga Bar



Three States Printing



Tresane, LLC



Village Boutique



Add-A-Touch Florist

Calhoun's Garage

East Kentucky Medical Billing

East Kentucky Rehabilitation Center

Elevate Recovery

Frankfort Habilitation

Frazier's Prater Drug

GKRC

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Global Business Solutions

Global Contracting

Guthrie KY

Henry's Hot Dog Co.

JCA Rentals

Lexington Development

Miller Lumber Company

Mortimer Media Group

Paige's Shoe Repair

Perfection Tool Inc

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Prestonsburg Dairy Cheer

Richie's Hallmark

Sorrell Construction Services

Seasonal Shoppe

US Psychiatry PLLC

Wound Care Center at Glasgow

Your News Today