What Happened in Frankfort?

From the awful pension and budget crises, to the racist “Gang Bill,” and endless attacks on reproductive freedom, racial justice, our teachers, workers, and more, the 2018 Kentucky General Assembly will be one seared into our collective consciousness for years to come.

When it came to LGBTQ legislation, with your help, we were able to maneuver a number of quiet victories that shouldn't be missed, beginning with our record number of co-sponsors on Senator Morgan McCarvey’s “Statewide Fairness Law” Senate Bill 190. Lexington Republican Senator Alice Forgy Kerr joined Senator McCarvey and five others for the largest Senate contingent in history to support LGBTQ discrimination protections.

Though a handful of legislators introduced an anti-transgender “Bathroom Bully Bill” for Kentucky schools—House Bill 326—it was “dead on arrival” in the House of Representatives and never even received a hearing in Chairman Bam Carney’s Education Committee.

You'll likely remember the “Religious Freedom Bill,” which we dubbed the “Sore Loser's Law” or “Overkill Bill,”—House Bill 372—which was seven pages of opposition to same-gender marriage, and opened the door for businesses and charities to deny service to LGBTQ families, even in cities with Fairness Ordinances. By the time the bill was posted in committee, it was host to a frightening 46 co-sponsors.

But in a surprise bi-partisan move by lawmakers, new language was introduced via a committee substitute that replaced the discriminatory provisions of HB 372. The new version of the law would have simply reiterated existing protections pastors and religious entities already enjoy, without opening the door to discrimination. The improved language passed out of committee unanimously and was approved by the House on the consent calendar without debate. The Senate ultimately never took up the issue.

One of our other chief concerns this session was Rep. Stan Lee’s “HIV Criminalization Bill” House Bill 193. In its original form, HB 193 severely criminalized people living with HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases who used saliva or other bodily materials as a projectile against a peace officer. It initially created a Class C Felony for the offense—with a mandatory five-year prison sentence—even if the bodily material could not transmit HIV, like saliva. Rep. Jason Nemes worked closely with the Fairness Campaign and ACLU of Kentucky to propose new language for HB 193, which reduced the penalty to a Class A Misdemeanor, created a better definition for “communicable disease” that didn't single out people living with HIV/AIDS, and mandated that the risk of transmission be consistent with prevailing epidemiological evidence.

Rep. Nemes' amendment passed the House, and after a little wrangling, the better language also passed the Senate with the help of Judiciary Committee Chairman Whitney Westerfield. On the final day of the session, the substantially improved HB 193 passed the House on concurrence, sending it to Governor Bevin’s desk to become law.

We still have much work to do, as we brace ourselves for another difficult General Assembly in 2019, but for now, we will focus on the upcoming Primary and General Elections. C-FAIR, our Political Action Committee, has released endorsements in 25 important Primary Election races across Kentucky. You’ll find them just inside this newsletter. Regardless of how you vote, we just hope you do vote!

Thank you, endlessly, for your work and support.
C-FAIR, the political action committee (PAC) of the Fairness Campaign, is proud to endorse 28 candidates in 25 Kentucky Primary Election races in Bowling Green, Lexington, and Louisville.

You might be wondering why you do not see endorsements in important Primary Election races for Congress, but as a state PAC, C-FAIR can only endorse candidates for state and local office, not federal office. You may also wonder why there are no endorsements in many other races, like Kentucky House District 34, where longtime Fairness ally Rep. Mary Lou Marzian is running for re-election. Many of these elected officials do not have Primary Election opponents, so they will not appear on the ballot May 22. This is also true for Jefferson County judicial races with fewer than three candidates. In those races, two candidates will win the Primary Election to compete in the General Election in the fall. Candidates in those races also will not appear on your ballot, therefore C-FAIR will endorse a candidate in those races closer to the General Election in November.

These endorsements represent hundreds of volunteer hours performed by C-FAIR Board Members and community supporters, who interviewed candidates in all 25 races. Beginning in February, all candidates in races being considered by C-FAIR were mailed an instruction letter to their address filed with the Kentucky Secretary of State or County Clerk. Those letters provided a link to an online candidate survey. Candidates who completed the survey in a timely manner, and whose answers were viewed favorably by the C-FAIR Board of Directors, were invited to an interview with a team of C-FAIR Board Members and community volunteers who interviewed each candidate in a particular race. Following the interview, the team made a recommendation of endorsement to the C-FAIR Board of Directors, which issues final endorsement decisions.

Often, there are many Fairness-supportive candidates in a single race, including some who have received the C-FAIR endorsement in the past, sometimes for a different office. While it is difficult, the C-FAIR Board of Directors endeavors to choose one candidate for endorsement in each race, since voters must make the same hard choice. On rare occasions, C-FAIR may endorse more than one candidate, which is almost always reserved for races in which more than one candidate will proceed to the General Election.

We encourage you to research candidates’ positions on all the issues that matter to you and make your own choices. Regardless of how you vote, the most important thing is that you do vote May 22! You may view our full endorsements online as well at www.Fairness.org/CFAIR.
KY Senate 26
Dr. Karen Berg

KY Senate 36
Gay Adelmann

KY House 20
Dr. Patti Minter

KY House 30
Rep. Tom Burch

KY House 33
Rob Walker

KY House 35
Dr. Lisa Willner

KY House 40
Rep. Dennis Horlander

KY House 42
Rep. Reggie Meeks

KY House 43
Charles Booker

KY House 88
Josh Mers

Jeff. Co. Family Court Div. 4
Bryan Gatewood

Jeff. Co. Family Court Div. 4
Shelley Santry

Jeff. Co. District Court Div. 3
Tracy Davis

Jeff. Co. District Court Div. 6 Judge
Sean Delahanty

Jeff. Co. District Court Div. 9
Danny Alvarez

Jeff. Co. Attorney
Mike O’Connell

Louisville Mayor
Greg Fischer

Lou. Metro Council Dist. 1 Councilwoman
Jessica Green

Lou. Metro Council Dist. 3 Josephine Layne Buckner

Lou. Metro Council Dist. 5 Councilwoman
Cheri Bryant Hamilton

Lou. Metro Council Dist. 7
Paula McCraney

Lou. Metro Council Dist. 15 Marcella Ann Eubank

Lou. Metro Council Dist. 21
Nicole George

Lou. Metro Council At-Large
Arnold Farr

Lexington Mayor
Linda Gorton

Lexington Council At-Large Council Member
Steve Kay

Lexington Council At-Large
Richard Moloney

Lexington Council Dist. 11 David Jones

Lexington Council At-Large
Arnold Farr

Lexington Council At-Large Council Member
Steve Kay

Lexington Council At-Large
Richard Moloney
Karen Berg – KY Senate District 26 Democratic Primary

Karen Berg is the C-FAIR choice for the Kentucky Senate District 26 Democratic Primary. Dr. Berg has been an outspoken advocate for transgender rights in Kentucky, having previously testified before the Kentucky Senate against the 2015 “Bathroom Bully Bill.” She will be an informed and thoughtful addition to the chamber.

Gay Adelmann – KY Senate District 36 Democratic Primary

The C-FAIR nod goes to Gay Adelmann in the Kentucky Senate District 36 Democratic Primary. Gay has a proven track record of not just getting involved in the community, but she actually launched a grassroots movement to help improve our public schools. Her genuine commitment to civic conversation would serve the Kentucky General Assembly well.

Patti Minter – KY House District 20 Democratic Primary

Bowling Green Fairness leader Patti Minter is the C-FAIR choice for the Kentucky House District 20 Democratic Primary. Dr. Minter is the clear choice for this open seat vacated by longtime Representative Jody Richards. A WKU History Professor, Dr. Minter serves on the board of the ACLU of Kentucky and has helped spearhead the grassroots Bowling Green Fairness movement since its inception, and led the planning of Bowling Green’s first Pride Festival in 2017.

Rep. Tom Burch – KY House District 30 Democratic Primary

Representative Tom Burch, the longest serving member of the Kentucky General Assembly, once more earns the C-FAIR endorsement for re-election in the Kentucky House District 30 Democratic Primary. An early supporter of Fairness, Rep. Burch also protected reproductive rights for years as the former Chair of the House Health and Welfare Committee.
C-FAIR endorses Lisa Willner in the Kentucky House District 35 Democratic Primary. Dr. Willner is a current member of the JCPS School Board and has been an outstanding Fairness supporter in that role. In addition to her Fairness work, Dr. Willner has worked for restorative justice practices in schools, resulting in reduced out-of-school suspensions. She helped pass the resolution making JCPS schools a safe haven for immigrants and helped lead the way for transgender inclusion in JCPS policy. Richard Becker is also an impressive pro-Fairness candidate in this race. He is a longtime labor organizer and advocate, who speaks compellingly about the intersection of groups experiencing discrimination and disadvantage. Jack Walker, also pro-Fairness, is running a strong race in this primary as well.

JCPS Board Member Lisa Willner – KY House Dist. 35 Dem. Prim.
C-FAIR endorses Lisa Willner in the Kentucky House District 35 Democratic Primary. Dr. Willner is a current member of the JCPS School Board and has been an outstanding Fairness supporter in that role. In addition to her Fairness work, Dr. Willner has worked for restorative justice practices in schools, resulting in reduced out-of-school suspensions. She helped pass the resolution making JCPS schools a safe haven for immigrants and helped lead the way for transgender inclusion in JCPS policy. Richard Becker is also an impressive pro-Fairness candidate in this race. He is a longtime labor organizer and advocate, who speaks compellingly about the intersection of groups experiencing discrimination and disadvantage. Jack Walker, also pro-Fairness, is running a strong race in this primary as well.

Rep. Dennis Horlander – KY House Dist. 40 Dem. Primary
Voters in south central Louisville face a difficult choice in the Kentucky House District 40 Democratic Primary. Three of the four candidates sought C-FAIR’s endorsement, and each has unique strengths to offer. The longtime incumbent, Representative Dennis Horlander, has co-sponsored Fairness legislation in Frankfort and has been an ally in keeping us informed of important developments in the House. Given his demonstrated record of support, Rep. Horlander receives our endorsement once again. Nima Kulkarni is also a very accomplished advocate for Fairness issues and would make a great public servant. Logan Gatti is a young, serious candidate who we also hope to see in another race in the future.

Representative Reginald “Reggie” Meeks once again earns the C-FAIR endorsement for re-election in the Kentucky House District 42 Democratic Primary. A longtime leader on Fairness issues in the Kentucky House and formerly as a Louisville Alderman, Rep. Meeks is currently paving the way for comprehensive gun reform in Kentucky.
Josh Mers – KY House District 88 Democratic Primary

Josh Mers is endorsed by C-FAIR in the Kentucky House District 88 Democratic Primary. Josh is an outstanding pro-Fairness candidate, is currently Chair of Lexington Fairness, and serves on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission. He is also a member of the Fayette County Democratic Executive Committee and was President of UK College Democrats. His experience and leadership in these endeavors and more make him uniquely qualified for this Fayette County seat.

Bryan Gatewood & Shelley Santry
Jefferson County Family Court Judge Division 4 Primary

Bryan Gatewood and Shelley Santry both receive the C-FAIR endorsement for the Jefferson County Family Court Judge Division 4 Primary. Shelley and Bryan have both demonstrated a strong commitment to fairness and equality, and their extensive experience in family law make them both incredibly qualified to serve as a Family Court Judge. While we recognize the uniqueness of a dual endorsement, C-FAIR believes both would exercise prudence and compassion on the bench, and two candidates will win the Primary to compete in the General Election.

Tracy Davis – Jeff. Co. District Court Judge Div. 3 Primary

Tracy Davis is the C-FAIR choice for endorsement in the Jefferson County District Court Judge Division 3 Primary. Her experience advocating for victims of domestic violence and working with the disability community gives her the compassion, connection, and insight necessary for district court.

Charles Booker – KY House District 43 Democratic Primary

Charles Booker earns the C-FAIR endorsement in the Kentucky House District 43 Democratic Primary. Charles’ experience includes working in former Governor Steve Beshear’s administration throughout the state, focusing on many rural areas through his work in the Department of Fish and Wildlife. We believe he’ll represent the constituents of longtime Rep. Darryl Owens’ district well, and do so with a statewide perspective. Philip Baker is also an excellent candidate and strong supporter of Fairness.
Judge Sean Delahanty – Jeff. Co. Dist. Court Div. 6 Primary
Judge Sean Delahanty earns the C-FAIR endorsement for re-election in the Jefferson County District Court Judge Division 6 Primary for his dedication to Fairness and equality, and his extensive career as a judge and lawyer. He will continue to serve Jefferson County with decisions that reflect his desire for compassion and justice.

Danny Alvarez – Jeff. Co. Dist. Court Judge Div. 9 Primary
Daniel “Danny” Alvarez earns the C-FAIR endorsement in the Jefferson County District Court Judge Division 9 Primary for his legal experience, action-based compassion, and steadfast dedication to the inherent civil rights of youth, immigrant families, and all Louisvillians. Danny’s fresh ideas and experience give him the edge in this race. He will advocate for LGBTQ training for domestic violence advocates, combat unlawful detentions of suspected undocumented immigrants, and seek alternative sentencing for juvenile offenders and community-based approaches to reduce the school to prison pipeline. All the candidates who sought endorsement impressed the interview team, especially Tanisha Ann Hickerson, who earned a C-FAIR endorsement in a previous different judicial race, and Karen Faulkner, a strong campaigner and Fairness supporter.

In the Jefferson County Attorney Democratic Primary, longtime Fairness ally and current County Attorney Mike O’Connell once again receives the C-FAIR endorsement. His strong advocacy for Fairness issues through the years and experience in the office gives him the edge in this important race. Challenger and Louisville Metro Councilman Brent Ackerson has also been outspoken on Fairness issues, and has received the C-FAIR endorsement for re-election to the Louisville Metro Council previously.

Mayor Greg Fischer – Louisville Mayor Democratic Primary
Mayor Greg Fischer receives the C-FAIR endorsement again for re-election in the Louisville Mayor Democratic Primary. Originally running on a pro-Fairness platform in 2010, Mayor Fischer helped make Louisville one of the only cities in the South to extend Domestic Partner Benefits to LGBTQ couples before the Supreme Court’s marriage equality ruling. Since then, Mayor Fischer and his administration worked closely with the Fairness Campaign to improve Louisville’s score on the Human Rights Campaign’s Municipal Equality Index from 50 in 2013 to a perfect 100 for LGBTQ inclusivity in 2015. Challenger Ryan Fenwick is also a proven advocate for Fairness, social justice, racial and economic equity, and more.
Councilwoman Jessica Green  
Louisville Metro Council District 1 Democratic Primary  
C-FAIR endorses Councilwoman Jessica Green for re-election in the Louisville Metro Council District 1 Democratic Primary. Councilwoman Green is effective and energetic in her work, including her support of Fairness. Notably, she sponsored the Metro Council resolution honoring the Louisville attorneys and clients in the Supreme Court’s same-gender marriage decision.

Josephine Layne Buckner  
Louisville Metro Council District 3 Democratic Primary  
C-FAIR endorses Josephine Layne Buckner in the Louisville Metro Council District 3 Democratic Primary. Not only does she demonstrate intimate knowledge of the geography and demographics of her district, but Josephine also has clear goals and an understanding of the vital functions of Metro Government. We believe she will be a strong candidate and a strong supporter of Fairness.

Councilwoman Cheri Bryant Hamilton  
Louisville Metro Council District 5 Democratic Primary  
Councilwoman Cheri Bryant Hamilton is once again endorsed by C-FAIR in the Louisville Metro Council District 5 Democratic Primary. Councilwoman Bryant Hamilton has been a strong advocate for Fairness from day one. In addition to her constant work for Fairness and civil rights, Councilwoman Bryant Hamilton has an outstanding record of service to the constituents of her district.

Paula McCraney  
Louisville Metro Council District 7 Democratic Primary  
Experienced community leader Paula McCraney earns C-FAIR’s endorsement in the Louisville Metro Council District 7 Democratic Primary. She will represent all residents of the district with a progressive voice and commitment to building a better, more inclusive community.
Nicole George earns the C-FAIR endorsement in the Louisville Metro Council District 21 Democratic Primary. An incredibly qualified candidate, Nicole will represent this diverse district with dignity and professionalism. She will bring the passion, compassion, experience, and organizational skills necessary to help foster overall community growth.

Marcella Ann Eubank
Louisville Metro Council District 15 Democratic Primary

Small business owner Marcella Ann Eubank is the C-FAIR choice for the Louisville Metro Council District 15 Democratic Primary. Her knowledge of—and longtime service to—the district are evident in the passion she brings to her campaign. Marcella will bring fairness, compassion, personal determination, and a wealth of business skill to the position.

Linda Gorton – Lexington Mayor Primary

Former Lexington Vice Mayor Linda Gorton, who cast a vote for Lexington’s Fairness Ordinance in 1999, is the C-FAIR choice for endorsement in the Lexington Mayor Primary. As Vice Mayor, Linda spearheaded Lexington’s Domestic Partner Benefits for city workers before the Supreme Court ruling on marriage equality, and has always brought an attitude of collaboration and common sense to her leadership in the city. Former Lexington Mayor Teresa Isaac is also a longtime Fairness supporter and proven progressive leader.

David Jones
Lexington Urban County Council District 11 Primary

David Jones is the C-FAIR choice for endorsement in the Lexington Urban County Council District 11 Primary for his strong business acumen and commitment to constituent services and safety as district priorities. As a LGBTQ business owner, David has demonstrated enduring support of the local community through fundraisers benefiting the Lexington Pride Festival and Pride Community Services Organization, among other charitable work.
Incumbent Lexington Urban County Council At-Large Members Steve Kay and Richard Moloney again earn the C-FAIR endorsement for re-election. Council Member Moloney voted for the 1999 Lexington Fairness Ordinance, and Council Member Kay helped lead the effort for Domestic Partner Benefits for city workers. Both will continue to represent Lexington and its diverse population well. Newcomer Arnold Farr also earns an endorsement for his commitment to economic justice, experience working with LGBTQ communities, and leadership in the Poor People’s Campaign.

Arnold Farr – At-Large Primary
Council Member Steve Kay – At-Large Primary
Council Member Richard Moloney – At-Large Primary
Lexington Urban County Council

Important Election Information

- Kentucky Primary Election - Tuesday, May 22
- Polls are open 6 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Find your polling location and other voter information at www.Elect.KY.gov
- Deadline to register to vote for the Kentucky General Election - Tuesday, Oct. 9
- Kentucky General Election - Tuesday, Nov. 6
- To join a C-FAIR Candidate Endorsement Interview Team in the future or to learn more, visit www.Fairness.org/CFAIR
Near the end of last year, C-FAIR held one of its largest fundraisers ever. Thank you to our incredible hosts, co-sponsors, and all our 2017 C-FAIR donors for making our work possible!

Special Thanks to Our Hosts

Jessica & Neville Blakemore
& Co-Sponsors

Councilman Brent Ackerson
Bill & Pat Allison
Allan S. Atherton
Jeff Been & Eric Graninger
Greg Bourke & Michael De Leon
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Mark England & Michael Handley
Dan Farrell
Patria Fielding & Virginia Forest
Rebecca Grant
Casey S. Kimball & Hanh Pham

Ed Kruger & Jeff Rodgers
PVA Tony Lindauer
Senator Morgan McGarvey
Marty & Tracie Meyer
County Clerk David L. Nicholson
County Attorney Mike O’Connell & Ellen O’Connell
Lisa Osanka & Carla F. Wallace
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John Selent
Dorene Stein
Sherrie & Stuart Urbach
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Thanks to all our 2017 C-FAIR Donors

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Sherrie and Stuart Urbach
Robert Walker
Carla F. Wallace
Louis Waterman
Mary Anne and John Watkins
Marilyn and John West
Rebecca and Will West
Nicholas Wilkerson
John and Cathy Yarmuth
David Yates
Guy Younce
Jan. 3: State Senator Morgan McGarvey introduces the “Statewide Fairness Law” Senate Bill 63 to expand LGBTQ discrimination protections across Kentucky. State Rep. Rick Nelson introduces the only explicitly anti-LGBTQ legislation of the Kentucky General Assembly—“License to Discriminate” House Bill 105 and anti-transgender “Bathroom Bully Bill” House Bill 106. Both measures fail to earn any additional co-sponsors and receive no action.

Jan. 5: The Fairness Campaign joins Planned Parenthood Advocates of Kentucky and Indiana, the ACLU of Kentucky, Kentucky Health Justice Network, and more ally groups in Frankfort to rally against attacks on reproductive freedom by the Kentucky General Assembly.

Jan. 9-13: University of Kansas “Alternative Break” students join the Fairness Campaign for a week of volunteering.

Jan. 11: The Fairness Campaign conducts “LGBTQ 101” training for Jefferson County Public School employees.

Jan. 12: The Fairness Campaign joins Louisville Male High School’s GSA to discuss LGBTQ rights.

Jan. 14: Lady Bunny, frequent judge on RuPaul’s Drag Race, headlines the MAP Louisville (Making Acceptant Possible) event to benefit the Fairness Campaign at Highland Community Ministries.


Jan. 19: The Fairness Campaign joins the LSEN (Louisville Sex Education Now) movement at Planned Parenthood of Kentucky and Indiana. Big Bar hosts a #ThanksObama fundraiser for the Fairness Campaign to celebrate the outgoing President Barack Obama.

Jan. 21: Millions of Americans join the Women’s March nationwide, including thousands across Kentucky. The Fairness Campaign joins the Women’s March in Downtown Louisville.

Jan. 23: Fairness Campaign Director Chris Hartman joins Crescent Hill Baptist Church and the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists (AWAB) on a panel discussion attended by hundreds—“Protecting LGBTQ Rights in Kentucky: Legal, Economic, and Moral Perspectives.”

Jan. 26: Director Hartman celebrates eight years with the Fairness Campaign and leads an “Upstander Training” with Louisville Showing Up for Racial Justice (LSURJ).

Jan. 28: The Fairness Campaign joins a solidarity event opposing President Donald Trump’s racist Muslim ban at the American Turkish Friendship Association (ATFA).

Jan. 30: The Fairness Campaign conducts the first of two-dozen “LGBTQ 101” trainings as part of the Louisville Metro Police Department’s annual in-service. Fairness Campaign representatives join “The Rally to Move Forward” in support of immigrants at the Muhammad Ali Center and the Compassion group of LGBTQ-supportive Catholics of the Cathedral of the Assumption.

Feb. 1: Director Hartman joins State Senator Morgan McGarvey, Rev. Jason Crosby, and others on a panel discussion at Crescent Hill Baptist Church—“The Inside Scoop: Taking Action in Frankfort.” Several hundred attend.

Feb. 9: The Fairness Campaign and ACLU-KY lead testimony in the Senate Veterans, Military Affairs, and Public Protection Committee against Senate Bill 17, Senator Albert Robinson’s law to give student organizations broad religious exemptions. Mijente Louisville, LSURJ, the Fairness Campaign, and more call on the Louisville Metro Council to approve a “Sanctuary City” ordinance to protect immigrant communities. Howell’s Hoot and Holler Karaoke at Zanzabar benefits the Fairness Campaign.

Feb. 11: The Fairness Campaign participates in a block party to counter a planned protest of Planned Parenthood of Kentucky and Indiana’s new facility in Louisville. Protesters never show.


Feb. 15: Hundreds lobby and rally for LGBTQ rights in Frankfort’s Capitol Rotunda.

Feb. 18: The Fairness Campaign and other community groups welcome prospective LGBTQ students at the LGBTQ Center at UofL’s “Cardinal OUTlook Day.” The Mellwood Tavern and Angel’s Envy host an “Angel’s for Fairness” fundraiser to benefit the Fairness Campaign.

Feb. 22: Led by Brown-Forman Corporation, the Kentucky Competitive Workforce Coalition hosts a first-ever legislative reception in Frankfort to raise awareness of Kentucky business support for a “Statewide Fairness Law.”

Feb. 23: The Fairness Campaign welcomes to the office representatives of Iglésia Evangélica Valdense del Río de la Plata (IEVRP), an urban ministry group from Buenos Aires in Argentina focused on social justice.
Feb. 27: Georgetown Fairness and the Scott County Chapter of Kentuckians For The Commonwealth (KFTC) deliver more than 1,000 signatures to city hall for a Fairness Ordinance.

Feb. 28: The ACLU-KY and Fairness Campaign again lead testimony against SB17, the overly-broad student religious protection bill, in the House Education Committee.


March 5: The sixth annual Catholics for Fairness Pilgrimage to the Cathedral of the Assumption calls on Archbishop Joseph Kurtz to support a “Statewide Fairness Law.”

March 7: More than 400 local supporters rally at Bowling Green City Hall for the first-ever introduction of a Bowling Green Fairness Ordinance by City Commissioner Slim Nash, whose motion to consider the ordinance fails to receive a second.

March 8: The Fairness Campaign conducts “LGBTQ 101” training for more than 400 Family Health Centers’ employees.

March 11: C-FAIR, the Fairness Campaign’s political action committee, participates in a panel discussion hosted by the Metro Louisville Women’s Political Caucus.

March 16: Governor Matt Bevin signs SB17 into law, landing Kentucky on California’s travel ban list for state workers, prohibiting state-funded travel to all areas that have passed any laws that could subvert LGBTQ protections.

March 25: A sold-out crowd enjoys the annual “We The People” ACLU/Fairness Dinner hosted by Susan Hershberg and her Wiltshire Pantry at the Speed Art Museum.

March 27: Georgetown Fairness supporters crowd city hall for a vote on considering a local Fairness Ordinance, which fails by one vote.

March 28: Director Hartman delivers a keynote speech for Collegiate’s annual Pride Week.

April 3: Bereans for Fairness rally and march in support of a local lesbian couple, whose home was vandalized in an anti-LGBTQ hate crime. The Berea Human Relations Commission votes unanimously to address the issue with council.

April 5: The Fairness Campaign joins a summit on LGBTQ homelessness at the Center for Women and Families.

April 9: The Fairness Campaign joins UofL’s “Out of the Darkness” suicide prevention walk.
April 13-15: Fairness Campaign leaders and staff meet with other state LGBTQ organizations at the Equality Federation Southern Leadership Summit in Tampa, Florida.

April 18: Bereans for Fairness call on the Berea City Council to approve Councilman Billy Wooten’s resolution condemning the recent hate crime, which passes unanimously.

April 19: The Fairness Campaign joins Congressman John Yarmuth’s annual “Luncheon on Women’s and Children’s Issues” at the Frazier History Museum. Heine Brothers’ Coffee managers and leadership participate in “LGBTQ 101” training conducted by the Fairness Campaign.

April 20: National “Give OUT Day” helps raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for LGBTQ organizations.

April 21: Director Hartman joins a panel discussion on “Working with the Media” at the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.

April 28: The filmmakers behind Love v. Kentucky host a showing at the Louisville Science Center to benefit the Fairness Campaign.

April 29: C-FAIR representatives address the Emerge Kentucky class of future candidates for Kentucky office.

May 1: The Fairness Campaign and nearly a dozen social justice organization co-host “May Day: Resist Oppression, Rebuild Communities” at the Muhammad Ali Center.

May 4: A speaking event in Bardstown featuring Kim Davis is canceled after the Fairness Campaign and local supporters announce a planned protest.

May 10: Bowling Green Fairness, the Fairness Campaign, and local supporters protest in Glasgow against the anti-LGBTQ actions of Judge Mitchell Nance, who created an illegal, discriminatory order accusing himself from all LGBTQ adoption cases. The Fairness Campaign conducts “LGBTQ 101” training for hundreds of court workers at the “Family Law Conference” hosted by the Administrative Office of the Courts in Frankfort.

May 16: Lambda Legal, national ACLU, ACLU-KY, the Fairness Campaign, and UofL Law Professor Sam Marcossen file an official complaint against Judge Nance for violating Kentucky’s Code of Judicial Conduct. Director Hartman speaks to the Flatwoods Kiwanis Club on the current status of transgender rights.

May 21: The Fairness Campaign and Fairness Education Fund welcome new and returning Coordinating Committee Members Neville Blakemore, Jared Brown, Sam Marcossen, and Tamara Russell.
Mary Lou and William Marzian
Tina Masden
Richard Schwarz and Tom Massey
Sara and TJ Massey
Nora Mattingly
Linda Mattingly
Tony Mattingly
David Maxwell and Marcelo Venegas
Daniel Maye
Irv and Peggy Maze
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Miaac McGowan
Charles McIntyre
Randall McKenzie
Heather Mahan and Markfah Sanchez
Catherine Mekus
Andrew Mellman
Mellow Matt's Music & More
Mellowood Tavern
Todd Mercier
Josh Mers
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Brad Oelkers
Brian O’Leary
Darryl Owens
Jon Parker
Amanda Parmenter
James Parrish
Resad and Ejnjeja Pasic
Kathleen Reno and Tom Payette
Beth and Doug Peabody
Bree Pearall
Christopher Pemberton
Elizabeth Sawyer and Stuart Perelmuter
John Sistarenik and Andy Perry

May 30: The Muhammad Ali Center hosts a screening of Real Boy, a transgender-affirming personal narrative and documentary.

May 31: New Interns Megan Gray, Simeon Huff, Nikita Sleptcbov, and Elijah Wood join the Fairness Campaign.

June 1: UofL Law Professor Sam Marcossion and Director Hartman debate the Commonwealth Policy Center on “LGBTQ Legal Issues” on WKU Public Radio's Eastern Standard. Hartman speaks to the All Wool and a Yard Wide Democratic Club in Louisville to celebrate Pride Month.

June 3: Georgetown Fairness hosts an “Ice Cream for Fairness” at Royal Spring Park. The Progressive Action Committee of Kentucky hosts a sold-out “MENU: Tasting Event and Silent Auction for the Fairness Campaign” at Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church with local celebrity men preparing their favorite dish for the crowd.

June 4: Woodford County Fairness puts on a Woodford County Pride Picnic at Walter Bradley Park to celebrate the second anniversary of Midway’s Fairness Ordinance.

June 5: Following years of work by Shelbyville Fairness and the Shelby County Chapter of KFTC, the Shelby County Human Rights Commission moves to create and present a Fairness Ordinance to the Shelby County Fiscal Court and Shelbyville City Council.

June 10: The Fairness Campaign joins the annual Pride Shabbat hosted by The Temple in Louisville and Jeffersonville Pride in Indiana.

June 11: The Kentuckiana Pride Foundation, ACLU-KY, and Fairness Campaign host the Equality Rally for Unity and Pride in Louisville in solidarity with the National Equality March in Washington, D.C. Lexington Fairness hosts a march in Fayette County, and local supporters hold one in Madisonville. The Fairness Campaign joins the Tri-State Alliance’s Owensboro Pride Picnic and Northern Kentucky Fairness’ NKY Pride Parade and Festival in Covington.

June 12: Events are held across the state to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Pulse Nightclub Massacre.

June 16: Hundreds join the Fairness Campaign’s “Human Balloon Float” in the Kentuckiana Pride Parade under the theme “Resist! Persist!”

June 17: The Fairness Campaign hosts the Kentuckiana Pride Festival in Louisville.

June 21: The Fairness Campaign helps WFPL News celebrate the 100th episode of “Strange Fruit: Musings on Politics, Pop Culture, and Black Gay Life,” hosted by longtime Fairness Campaign leaders Dr. Kaila Story and Jaison Gardner.

June 22: Director Hartman speaks at the U.S. Census Bureau’s Pride Month Observance in Jeffersonville, Indiana and at an “I Am Ali Festival” event at the KMAC Museum.

June 23: Captain Jake Eleazor and Director Hartman speak at the Fort Knox Pride Month Observance.

June 24: The Fairness Campaign joins Lexington Pride and Cincinnati Pride.

June 27: Local supporters speak before the Hanson City Council to request a Fairness Ordinance.

June 28: The Louisville Association of Fundraising Professionals host a “Diversity and Philanthropy Panel” with the Fairness Campaign, Louisville Urban League, and more.

June 29: The Fairness Campaign celebrates its 26th anniversary and joins a press conference hosted by Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer in response to California’s travel ban on Kentucky.

July 14-16: Fairness Campaign volunteers manage a beverage truck at Forecastle Festival with proceeds benefiting Fairness.

July 19: The ACLU-KY and Fairness Campaign update the UPS LGBTQ Business Resource Group on the legal and political landscape in the state.

July 26-29: Fairness Campaign leaders and staff attend the Equality Federation’s Leadership Conference in Alexandria, Virginia.

Aug. 1: Director Hartman speaks to the Louisville Young Democrats.

Aug. 7-8: Fairness West Virginia, ACLU-WV, Equality North Carolina, ACLU-KY, and the Fairness Campaign host a regional staff summit in Louisville to share strategy and collaborate on future plans. Director Hartman speaks to Central Kentucky PFLAG in Lexington.

Aug. 12: The Fairness Campaign joins the Louisville AIDS Walk and Madisonville Pride.

Aug. 16: The Fairness Campaign conducts “LGBTQ 101” training for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kentuckiana.

Aug. 17-27: Hundreds of volunteers staff the Fairness Campaign’s outreach booth at the Kentucky State Fair, connecting with thousands of LGBTQ supporters across the commonwealth.

Aug. 17: The Fairness Campaign hosts incoming UofL student volunteers at the office.

Aug. 23: The Fairness Campaign hosts incoming Bellarmine University student volunteers at the office.
Aug. 24: Freda Fairness—a larger-than-life creation by Squalis Puppeteers—is introduced as a “special guest” at the annual protest of the Kentucky Farm Bureau’s Country Ham Breakfast. Billed as “Freddie Farm Bureau’s Cousin,” Freda launches social media profiles (@FredaFairness) to hold the Kentucky Farm Bureau and her “cousin” accountable for their discriminatory policies. Dozens of protestors stand in solidarity with Freda and the Jefferson County Teachers Association (JCTA), LSURJ, ACLU-KY, and Fairness Campaign. The Fairness Campaign also hosts a contingent of Iraqi youth leaders at the office with the World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana.

Aug. 27: The Fairness Campaign joins Louisville Black LGBTQ Pride.

Sept. 6: The Fairness Campaign joins UofL’s annual Non-Profit Fair.

Sept. 7: The Fairness Campaign joins Bellarmine University’s annual Service Fest and a panel discussion at Spalding University on volunteering.

Sept. 8: Director Hartman speaks to the Indiana University Southeast Society of Human Relations Professionals on LGBTQ issues.

Sept. 14: Fairness Campaign supporters stay near the top of the non-profit leader board in “Give For Good Louisville;” the Community Foundation of Louisville’s largest day of local giving.

Sept. 16: The Fairness Campaign joins Louisville Pride on Bardstown Road.

Sept. 21: ACLU-KY Executive Director and longtime Fairness Campaign leader Michael Aldridge is inducted into the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights Civil Rights Hall of Fame among many other prominent social justice leaders including Ira Grupper, Renee Shaw, David Tandy, and Muhammad Ali.

Sept. 25: The Compassion group of the Cathedral of the Assumption hosts the Fairness Campaign for a statewide update on LGBTQ issues.

Sept. 30: As part of their Pride Week, Bellarmine University students volunteer at the Fairness Campaign.

Oct. 7: The Fairness Campaign joins the Morehead Pride Festival.

Oct. 12: The Heartland Progressive Alliance partners with Elizabethtown Fairness for a meeting on LGBTQ rights in the region.

Oct. 13: The Louisville Convention and Visitors Bureau (LCVB) names Director Hartman “Partner of the Year” for work on the LCVB LGBTQ Task Force and collaboration on legislative strategy to thwart anti-LGBTQ laws.

Nov. 4: Administrative Coordinator Jamie McClard celebrates two years at the Fairness Campaign.

Nov. 7: The Fairness Campaign joins a press conference hosted by Black Lives Matter Louisville, LSURJ, ACLU-KY, and more condemning the tasering of a student at Jeffersontown High School.

Dec. 1-2: Director Hartman attends the national Equality Federation board retreat in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dec. 8: Jessica and Neville Blakemore host a fundraiser for C-FAIR at their home in Louisville.

Dec. 10: Past and present Fairness Campaign leaders gather for a new annual leadership dinner. Former Fairness Campaign Co-Coordinator Gil Reyes receives the “Jeff Rodgers Unsung Hero Award” for his work to organize volunteers for the Forecastle Festival Fairness beverage truck. Outgoing Coordinating Committee Members Tiffany LaVoie and Jaison Gardner and Co-Coordinators Amanda Stahl and Rev. Derek Penwell are honored for their six years of service. A new leadership structure is established, with Dr. Ryan Combs and Katy Garrison as Chair and Vice Chair of the Fairness Education Fund, and Judith Faulkner and Sam Marcosson as Chair and Vice Chair of the Fairness Campaign. Jared Brown is named Secretary of both organizations.

Dec. 12: The Paducah City Commission holds the first reading of a Paducah Fairness Ordinance, introduced by Commissioner Sarah Stewart Holland with the support of Mayor Brandi Harless.

Dec. 15: The Kentucky Judicial Conduct Commission holds a disciplinary hearing on the case of Judge Nance, who doesn’t show. Days later, they release an official public reprimand of his prejudiced, discriminatory actions against LGBTQ people.

Dec. 19: At a planned second reading of Paducah’s Fairness Ordinance, the Commonwealth Policy Center organizes last-minute opposition to the LGBTQ rights law, delaying it until January.

Dec. 22: Kentucky Judge Jean Toby, Director of Policy for the National Center for Transgender Equality, hosts a community conversation on the transgender legal landscape at the Fairness Campaign.

The Fairness Campaign is a member of the Fairness Coalition, which includes the ACLU-KY, Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, and Lexington Fairness. The coalition helps coordinate local grassroots movements across the commonwealth. To start a Fairness movement in your town, call (502) 893-0788 or e-mail info@Fairness.org.
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