

OPPOSE

HB 47

ANTI-FAIRNESS “JACKPOT JUSTICE” LAW

HB47 WEAKENS CIVIL RIGHTS, WELCOMES FRIVOLOUS LAWSUITS

- House Bill 47 could open up Kentucky to legal chaos and frivolous lawsuits, all while forcing our taxpayers to foot the bill.
- HB47 allows national groups like Alliance Defending Freedom to fleece Kentucky out of millions of tax dollars by suing cities and counties that enforce local Fairness Ordinances.
- HB47 broadens definitions so much that it allows *private individuals* to sue one another over violations of their “religious freedom.”
- All “state and local laws, administrative regulations, and ordinances” could be subverted by someone asserting “religious freedom,” including domestic violence laws, property laws, trespass laws, contract laws, civil rights laws, and more.
- The majority of Kentucky voters oppose House Bill 47, according to a February 2024 Mason-Dixon Poll. (<https://tinyurl.com/KYHB47>)
- Some examples of how HB47 could be used include:
 - A property owner who posts and enforces a “no trespassing” sign citing trespass law would be considered the “government” and could be sued under RFRA by someone who claims, for instance, a right to enter the property to hunt for religious reasons.
 - An employer sued by a Black employee for racial discrimination, or a business owner sued by a customer for denying service to Jewish patrons, could assert a religious exemption from state non-discrimination law.
 - The owner of Company A, being sued by Company B over a breach of contract, could claim a religious exemption from judicial enforcement of standard contracting principles because, after signing the contract, Company A learned of sinful conduct by Company B and fully performing the contract with Company B would violate the religious beliefs of Company A’s owner.
 - In any judicial proceeding, an employee, customer, employer, or any private litigant who sues another private party could be unfairly required to submit evidence and argument showing that the state law or action at issue meets the stringent legal standard established in this bill—even though the government is not a party to the case at all.

FAIRNESS
C A M P A I G N