

# The 2019 Kentucky General Assembly A Wrap-Up



## 2019 Kentucky General Assembly

### By the Numbers

**100** State Representatives

**38** State Senators

**5** ACLU-KY Lobbyists

**30** Day Session

**789** Bills Filed

**237** Bills Monitored by  
ACLU-KY

**198** Bills Passed Into Law

**60** ACLU-KY One-on-One Meeting  
with Legislators

**2** Unconstitutional Laws Blocked  
by the Courts While We Litigate

### Big Wins

**Passage of the Pregnant Workers Act!** Employers must provide reasonable accommodations for pregnant employees so that no one has to choose between a healthy pregnancy and a paycheck.

**Expanding Felony Expungement!** There are now more felonies eligible for expungement and the prohibitive filing fee has been cut in half.

**Strict guidelines for School Resource Officers in Kentucky's Public Schools!** Because of our advocacy, the School Safety bill includes guidelines for memorandums of understanding between schools and police departments to clarify law enforcement officers in schools should only work on criminal matters, not student behavior.

### Legislative losses we're fighting in court

The 2019 General Assembly passed a record number of anti-abortion measures. We immediately filed suit when two bills passed, and they were blocked in court less than 24-hours after the Governor signed them into law. The **6-week abortion ban** and **Reason abortion ban** (ban on abortion if the reason is for the race, gender, national origin, color, or disability status of the fetus) are **blocked indefinitely as we challenge them in court.**

### Educating lawmakers and the public

For one week, our interns took over the tunnel from the Capitol to the Annex Building with an exhibit on the history of racial terror lynchings in Kentucky. They lined the walls of the tunnel end-to-end with the names of known victims to recognize their place in the Commonwealth's history and raise awareness of mass incarceration, excessive punishment, unjustified police violence, and the presumption of guilt and dangerousness that burdens so many people of color.

### Laying the Foundation for Future Success

**Abolition of the Death Penalty-** Record number of bi-partisan co-sponsors on the House Bill

**Restoration of Voting Rights-** ACLU-KY testified during an informational committee hearing and participated in a legislative press conference on the issue

**LGBT Rights/Equality-** Record number of bi-partisan co-sponsors in the Senate on the statewide Fairness Bill, and a record number of co-sponsors on the bill that would ban so-called Conversion Therapy in the Commonwealth

### Keep Up the Fight

The legislative interim period is a critical time to meet and educate legislators on key issues, join us! Visit [aclu-ky.org](http://aclu-ky.org) to add your name to our Action Alert list and click on "Act" if you want to sign up to volunteer.



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