

STOP S.L.A.P.P. SUITS

Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP suits) are frivolous lawsuits intended to punish speech protected by the First Amendment.

A SLAPP isn't meant to be won; it's just meant to be so ruinously expensive and time-consuming to defend that the victim agrees to self-censor if the suit is dropped. SLAPPs are one of the many ways powerful figures and institutions use the legal system to punish critics, silence journalists and whistle blowers, and stifle the flow of information and opinions protected by the First

THE PROBLEM:

SOCIAL MEDIA:

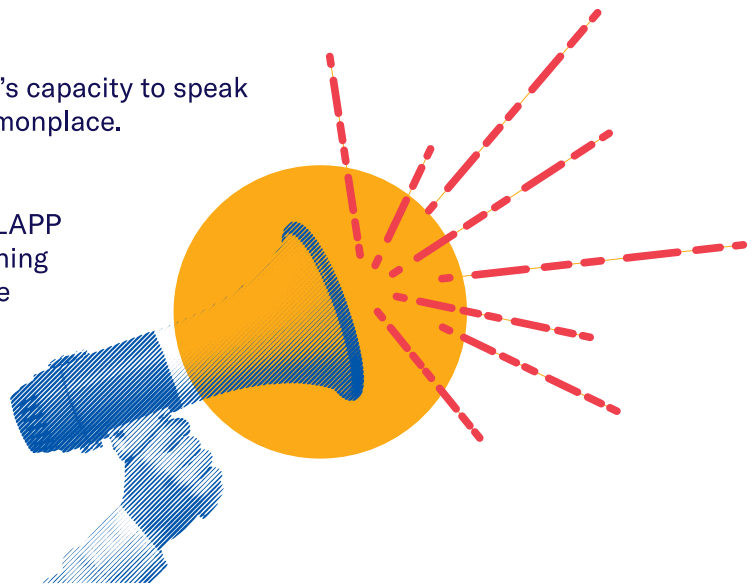
As social media has amplified the public's capacity to speak truth to power, SLAPPs have grown commonplace.

FALLING BEHIND:

Most states have some version of anti-SLAPP legislation; Kentucky is one of the remaining states without any anti-SLAPP law on the books.

BURDENING COURTS:

Several SLAPP suits have been filed in Kentucky in recent years, further clogging an already overburdened court system.



THE SOLUTION:

Kentucky lawmakers should establish more common-sense protections for free speech by adopting anti-SLAPP laws **allowing courts to quickly dismiss SLAPPs**. It should allow defendants to collect attorney's fees from the plaintiff if the suit is dismissed.