

## KYR Legislative Update – 2/23/2026

Kentucky REALTORS® were highly active during the seventh week of legislative session – signing on to three coalition support letters along with likeminded associations including the Chamber of Commerce and the Home Builders Association. These letters will help to advance key legislation to improve permitting and zoning laws. The first of the support letters endorses HB 530, which advocates for commonsense reforms to Kentucky’s permitting process. The second letter is in support of HB617, modernizing planning and zoning framework to better meet today’s housing needs across the commonwealth. Finally, the third letter advances HB618, legislation that also delivers meaningful reforms to Kentucky’s residential building and permitting process.

### QRT News

#### KYR Legislative Bill Tracker – 2026 Legislative Priorities

During week seven of legislative session, two priority bills for the real estate industry have advanced out of their respective chamber. Rep. Proctor’s bill, HB264, passed through the House and seeks to bolster deed fraud laws in the commonwealth. Additionally, Sen. Mills’s legislation, SB9, has passed through the Senate. This is the housing measure which enables localities to create Residential Infrastructure Development Districts, allowing financing options for infrastructure costs. Further, the QRT team decided to support one additional bill: HB653, which extends nondiscrimination protections.

#### Supported Bills (1):

##### HB653 (Marzian, M)

Repeal and reenact KRS 344.010 to define terms; amend KRS 344.020, relating to the purpose of the Kentucky's civil rights chapter, to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; amend KRS 344.025, 344.040, 344.050, 344.060, 344.070, and 344.080, relating to prohibited discrimination in various labor and employment practices, to include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; amend KRS 210.033, 344.030, 344.100 and 344.110 to conform; amend KRS 344.120 and 342.140, relating to prohibited discrimination in places of public accommodation and advertisements, to include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; amend KRS 344.170, 344.180, 344.190, 344.300, and 344.310, relating to the state and local human rights commissions, to include the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity in the

scope of their powers and duties; amend KRS 344.360, 344.370, 344.380, and 344.680, relating to prohibited discrimination in certain housing, real estate, and other financial transactions, to include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; amend KRS 344.367, relating to prohibited discrimination in certain insurance sales, to include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; amend KRS 344.400, relating to prohibited discrimination in certain credit transactions, to include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity; amend KRS 18A.095 to conform; make technical corrections.

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/26RS/HB653.html>