



BOURBON BUILDS KENTUCKY.  
10+ YEARS OF LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP.



Kentucky Bourbon fuels economic development,  
tourism and agriculture.

For more than a decade, the Kentucky Distillers' Association has led the way in working with members of the General Assembly to grow and enhance our signature distilling industry – keeping Kentucky the one, true and authentic home of America's only native spirit.

		CONSUMER ACCESS	HOSPITALITY & TOURISM	INDUSTRY GROWTH	KEEP KENTUCKY COMPETITIVE	REGULATORY FAIRNESS/PARITY	RESPONSIBILITY	TAX/FEE FAIRNESS	WORKFORCE
2025 - SENATE BILL 202	Regulates THC beverages the same as alcohol; moves wholesale and retail licensing and enforcement to the ABC; caps THC at 5 mg per 12 oz; limits sales to liquor stores; and provides many of the same privileges to its manufacturers as distilleries.	*				*	*		
2025 - HOUSE BILL 775	Taxes THC beverages the same as spirits. On barrel taxes, it makes technical corrections and clarifications without changing the original 2023 HB 5 legislation's intent or agreements.				*	*		*	
2025 - HOUSE BILL 346	Removes emergency backup generators from Ky. Division of Air Quality fees and eliminates a 4,000 ton annual-emissions cap to align fees with actual emissions and reduce or maintain fees for 99% of payors.			*		*		*	
2024 - SENATE BILL 50	Allows Kentucky's craft distillers to self distribute up to 5,000 gallons of spirits each year to retail outlets including restaurants, bars and bottle shops. The new privilege will help small distilleries grow sales and brand recognition.	*	*	*		*			
2024 - HOUSE BILL 439	An omnibus measure that broadens and strengthens alcohol education and responsibility, brings more accountability and transparency to the vintage spirits market, authorizes the ABC to auction confiscated alcohol versus destroying it, and lowers the riverboat classification to 40 passengers allowing alcohol service on smaller vessels.	*	*	*			*		
2023 - HOUSE BILL 5	Institutes a 20 year phase out of the world's only barrel tax, which has pushed startups and distillery expansions away from Kentucky. Major compromises protect funding for local schools, fire and EMS services			*	*	*		*	*
2022 - HOUSE BILL 500	Authorizes private barrel selections and provides new privileges including gift shop exclusive bottles, satellite tasting rooms, and bottle sales and free samples at fairs, festivals and farmers markets.	*	*	*	*	*			*
2021 - SENATE BILL 5	As distilleries made hand sanitizer for COVID-19 response, SB 5 provides legal liability relief to businesses during declared emergencies.					*		*	*
2021 - SENATE BILL 67	Makes take-home cocktails sold with a prepared meal a permanent privilege for restaurants, a lifeline for hospitality partners during COVID-19.	*	*	*	*				*
2021 - SENATE BILL 68	Strengthens the distilling industry's workforce development efforts.			*		*			*
2021 - HOUSE BILL 415	Updates Kentucky's 2020 national model legislation for direct-to-consumer shipping.	*	*	*	*	*	*		
2020 - HOUSE BILL 415	Establishes a national model for alcohol producers in Kentucky to ship their products directly to consumers in reciprocal states.	*	*	*	*	*	*		
2020 - HOUSE BILL 351	Fixes a tax exemption for new distilling equipment purchasing. Fully funds the state's Ignition Interlock Program via DUI service fees						*	*	*
2020 - SENATE BILL 99	Allows local-option votes on distillery sales and sampling in dry counties, specifies annual minimum production for a distiller's license and permits distillery gift shop sales of collaborative beer products.	*	*	*	*	*			*
2020 - SENATE BILL 150	Provides liability relief for distilleries producing sanitizer and others making COVID-19 protective products. Allows take-home cocktails sales by restaurants and bars in conjunction with food orders, a lifeline for hospitality partners.	*	*	*		*	*		*
2019 - SENATE BILL 85	Reforms Kentucky's Ignition Interlock statutes with multistakeholder input, including MADD.						*		
2018 - HOUSE BILL 400	Creates a national model for shipping spirits, allowing visitors their No. 1 request: to ship bottles from distillery visitor centers to their homes in reciprocal states.	*	*	*	*	*	*		
2017 - HOUSE BILL 100	Legitimizes the secondary market in allowing consumers to sell unopened vintage bottles to licensed retailers, spurring world-class vintage Bourbon bars, restaurants and retail shops. HB 100 also further protects Kentucky Bourbon by requiring whiskey to be fermented and aged at least one year in Kentucky to bear the state's name.	*	*	*	*				
2016 - SENATE BILL 11	Bourbon tourism reforms help make the Kentucky Bourbon Trail® world-class with new privileges, including: onsite restaurants; by-the-drink cocktail sales; additional free sampling; and increased gift shop bottle sales.	*	*	*	*	*	*		*
2015 - HOUSE BILL 60	Creates Kentucky's first Ignition Interlock program for DUI offenders.						*		
2014 - HOUSE BILL 445	Establishes a Bourbon barrel tax credit to mitigate the world's only barrel tax and encourage reinvestment and growth. This works too well, resulting in unused credits necessitating future legislative action.			*	*	*		*	*
2014 - HOUSE BILL 475	Allows local voters to authorize alcohol sales in their area state parks.	*	*	*	*		*	*	
2014 - SENATE BILL 83	Modernizing alcohol laws and license types includes creating a craft distiller license with a lower fee to help attract and grow startups across Kentucky.			*	*	*			*
2013 - SENATE BILL 13	Eliminates a pre-prohibition era law that banned alcohol sales on Election Day and allows local governments to regulate those sales by ordinance.	*	*	*					*

BOURBON. IT'S MORE THAN A DRINK.