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Contact: Andy Hightower
859-492-6686



525 W. Fifth Street • Covington, KY 41011
www.kyclubforgrowth.org

2008 Legislative Scorecard Released *Club Notes Improvement in Taxpayer Protection*

LEXINGTON, Ky. – Today, Kentucky Club for Growth released its Legislative Scorecard for the 2008 legislative session.

“The scorecard is the strongest tool we have to let Kentucky citizens know how their legislators are spending their tax dollars,” said Brian Richmond, President of the Kentucky Club for Growth. “I am pleased that, in only our second year, there are so many more high scores.”

The Legislative Scorecard ranks legislators according to their votes on selected bills that impact revenue, spending and economic freedom. Although a score of 70 and above is acceptable, lawmakers receiving a score of 85 or more have been protectors of the taxpayer and will receive the Defender of Economic Freedom award from the Kentucky Club for Growth.

“It’s incredible what a difference one year of public accountability can make,” said Andy Hightower, Kentucky Club for Growth Executive Director. “In the House, while the median score is roughly the same from 2007, there are nine more members with scores above 70.”

Three lawmakers will receive the Kentucky Defender of Economic Freedom Award: Addia Wuchner, Stan Lee and Joe Fischer. Stan Lee is a recipient for the second year in a row.

“Senate scores improved as well, but they don’t tell the whole story,” said Mr. Richmond. “The Senate kills many bills passed in the House that increase taxes, expand government and limit economic growth. We’ve attempted to credit this positive inaction in the scorecard, but it does not perfectly assign credit for Senate leadership’s decision to stop the House’s \$148 million tax increase.”

“Despite this improvement, there is still a long way to go. The Legislature passed the most indebted budget ever, the unsustainable state pension system has only been nudged in a better direction, and the Administration continues to talk about expanding government,” said Mr. Hightower.

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To review the scorecard, and for further explanation of how it was compiled, please visit www.kyclubforgrowth.org.

The Kentucky Club for Growth is a bi-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to economic freedom, limited government, lower taxes and less regulation. It is an affiliate of the national Club for Growth.

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