

Kentucky Equal Justice Center Advocacy Successes

KEJC has helped draft and pass state legislation to:

- Waive rental fees for high school textbooks for students receiving free and reduced lunch
- Allow welfare parents to choose post-secondary education as their required work activity
- Protect homes from debt collectors, by increasing the homestead exemption in bankruptcy
- Make human trafficking a crime
- Cap points and fees in high cost home loans and better document homeowners' ability to pay
- Require third party tax debt purchasers to offer homeowners a payment plan

KEJC has successfully opposed legislation to:

- Nullify a Kentucky Supreme Court holding that payday lenders charged usurious interest rates
- Double the cap on payday loans from \$500 to \$1000
- Make it harder for consumers to get "one free copy" of their medical records
- Criminalize withholding of visitation
- Shield prime contractors from accountability for misclassification of workers by subs
- Adopt Arizona-style immigrant detention laws

KEJC worked with state officials to:

- Make dozens of public benefits notices easier to read
- Improve the forms used by hospitals to screen for free indigent care
- Make sure that children in joint custody do not lose K-TAP benefits
- Remove asset tests for food stamps

KEJC has commented on state and federal plans and regulations and won changes to:

- Require health insurers to meet new standards for spending dollars on health care itself
- Make sure Medicaid managed care companies meet minimum standards of language access
- Allow Medicaid recipients the right to a fair hearing on any service denial

KEJC has filed litigation to:

- Stop Medicaid cutoffs of 400 people in nursing homes and 3000 in community-based care
- Win \$90,000 in back wages for workers denied their pay — by filing liens on thoroughbreds
- Stop nursing homes from "dumping" people with behavioral problems

KEJC provided expertise and leadership to help launch:

- Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky
- Kentucky Voices for Health
- Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending

KEJC also provides unique immigration law services through Maxwell Street Legal Clinic.